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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Defense Chief Backs SDF for UN Monitoring

OW1605143291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Hiroshima, May 16 KYODO—The Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda said Thursday he supports the use of Self- Defense Forces (SDF) personnel for ceasefire monitoring as well as peacekeeping operations in a logistical support corps the government proposes to set up to assist UN peacekeeping operations.

Ikeda, speaking at his first press conference in his home electorate since assuming office in December, said the monitoring of ceasefires as well as peacekeeping activities requires people with experience and a knowledge of military affairs.

In November, a bill proposed by the government was scrapped for the sending overseas of noncombat personnel, ships and aircraft from the SDF to assist in international peacekeeping activities because of strong opposition from opposition parties and Asian neighbors, particularly China, and North and South Korea.

But since the war in the Persian Gulf ended, the government announced in March that it would send minesweepers to the region to assist in the removal of mines.

The minesweepers left Japan on April 29 and are expected to reach the Gulf at the end of May.

The government's interpretation of the Constitution, which it says allows the peaceful use of SDF personnel and equipment overseas, is disputed by several major opposition parties, including the Social Democratic Party, the Komeito, and the Japanese Communist Party.

"Should the duties of SDF entail the use of armed force, this involves the Constitution," Ikeda said. "From now on, we want to give consideration to participation in a peacekeeping force while bearing in mind how this affects the Constitution."

Ikeda also said the dispatch of the minesweepers has paved the way for the use of SDF personnel in a proposed international corps for use in emergency relief operations such as support for victims of last week's killer cyclone in Bangladesh.

"Now that the minesweepers have been sent overseas, there is no basis for not being able to send the SDF for disaster relief in Bangladesh," Ikeda said.

"Given current public opinion, it makes common sense for them to go," he said.

Breakthrough Sought in Peacekeeping 'Paralysis'

OW1705114991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Keizo Obuchi, in an apparent bid to break political paralysis over how Japan should contribute to UN peacekeeping operations proposed Friday establishing a new LDP research council to help hammer out a plan.

Obuchi, in a speech at a symposium on global leadership, also indicated he sides with a growing chorus of conservative political leaders who advocate allowing military personnel to join UN peacekeeping operations.

"We cannot procrastinate forever" on issues such as whether to authorize the overseas dispatch of Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to join in UN peacekeeping operations, or to assist in disaster relief, he said.

Obuchi said he hopes legislation will be ready in time for Japan to join in peacekeeping operations in Cambodia, and suggested a bill would be debated at an extraordinary Diet session to be convened in the "not too distant" future.

Obuchi pointed a finger at bureaucratic foot-dragging as a reason for the slow-going, and said he hoped the establishment of the LDP research council could help expedite the process.

He named his predecessor Ichiro Ozawa—who last fall led a failed attempt to pass legislation to create a "UN Peace Cooperation Corps"—to head the group.

Ozawa resigned last month following the defeat of the LDP's candidate for governor of Tokyo by the incumbent governor.

The initial UN peace cooperation bill was dropped in November after opposition parties rejected the inclusion of military personnel in the corps, which would have played a noncombat support role for the U.S.-led multinational forces arrayed against Iraq.

Immediately thereafter, the LDP agreed with two centrist parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), to draw up legislation defining how Japan would contribute to UN peacekeeping activities.

But the three parties have made virtually no progress in the six months since.

Many government leaders hope that public opinion will be more accepting of an expanded international role for the SDF now, in the aftermath of the multinational forces' one-sided victory over Iraq.

"We must seriously consider whether the international community would accept participation in peacekeeping operations if we bar the SDF," Obuchi said.

Earlier in the week, DSP Chairman Keigo Ouchi advocated participation of SDF personnel in nonmilitary UN peacekeeping operations. Komeito, however, has not yet expressed a clear position.

Obuchi said the LDP council could also address issues involving official development assistance, help for post-Persian Gulf war recovery efforts, and revising public consciousness, he said.

But Foreign Ministry sources said the Finance Ministry had decided to release additional money in order to relieve strains in Japan-U.S. ties.

Watanabe said Japan is "going to make new and additional contributions for the international cause," some of which will be of interest to the United States.

He cited further aid for Kurdish refugees in Iran and the dispatch of more medical teams to that country.

Watanabe said it is only natural that the change in exchange rates would affect the figure Japan pledged in January to the Gulf Peace Fund, because "Japanese taxpayers pay in yen."

"So at that time, '9 billion dollars' and '9 billion dollars equivalent' is the same," he said, adding that the commitment was not made to the United States exclusively, but rather "to the world as a whole."

Additional Compensation for Minesweeper Crews

OW1705063791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0606 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—The cabinet approved special daily allowances Friday for the crews of minesweepers sent to the Persian Gulf, and also boosted the amount of compensation payable for death or serious injury.

Crews of the four minesweepers will receive a special allowance of 10,600 yen for each day they are involved in minesweeping operations, while those on the support ship and supply ship accompanying the minesweepers will get 3,700 yen per day, government officials said.

The cabinet also agreed to an increase of 10 million yen in the sum payable for any member of the Maritime Self-Defense Force killed or injured during the operation, taking the total to 27 million yen.

For those killed or injured who are judged to have made a "special contribution" to the mine-clearing operation, it authorized Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to make a further payment of another 10 million yen.

The Japanese ships sailed for the Gulf on April 26, and were due to make a port call at Colombo, Sri Lanka, on Friday for fuel and supplies. They earlier made port calls in Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines.

Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda told the cabinet meeting the ships are expected to arrive in the Gulf on May 25, the officials said.

Minesweepers including those from the United States, Britain, Germany, and Saudi Arabia have already cleared two-thirds of the 1,200 mines estimated to have been laid by the Iraqi Navy during the Gulf crisis.

Ikeda said the remaining mines are reportedly difficult to clear as they were laid in areas with swift currents.

He said the Japanese minesweepers will launch a mine-clearance operation immediately after they arrive in the Gulf, as the commander of the Japanese task force will receive a report on the mines from SDF [Self-Defense Force] officials when the ships make their next port call in Karachi, Pakistan.

SDP Group Supports Not Opposing U.S., SDF

OW1705135091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—A group of Social Democratic Party (SDP) members proposed Friday that the country's largest opposition party will depart from its decades-long opposition to security arrangements with the United States, and the Self-Defense Forces (SDF).

The intraparty group is the party's right-wing and largest power bloc within the SDP, whose de facto leader is Makoto Tanabe, the SDP's vice chairman. It will continue discussions on the proposal before putting forth the proposal at an extraordinary party convention set for July.

The proposal urges the SDP to accept the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and recognize the SDF as constitutional, but advocates a continued ban on the sending abroad of the SDF.

The party currently advocates unarmed neutrality for Japan and says it opposes the security treaty. It also says the SDF is unconstitutional but exists in legal terms.

But the intraparty group said there was a need to limit defense spending to less than 1 percent of gross national product (GNP) and to strictly maintain an arms embargo policy.

The SDP, formerly known as the Japan Socialist Party, has scheduled an extraordinary convention on July 30 and 31, one day short of an earlier plan of July 29-31.

The convention is aimed at establishing a new party leadership and a party reform program.

SDP Chairwoman Takako Doi has indicated that she may step down at the convention, called in the face of strong criticism of the party leadership following a major election setback in April.

In the April elections, the SDP lost many of its prefectural assembly seats. In the Tokyo gubernatorial election, SDP candidate Mitsunori Ohara finished fourth.

Semiconductor Talks With U.S. Resume in Tokyo

OW1705040991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0241 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Japan and the United States resumed their semiconductor trade talks in Tokyo on Friday in a bid to resolve two sticking points which have stalled the conclusion of a new pact on semiconductor trade after five rounds of talks.

The talks are expected to center on ways of calculating the share of foreign semiconductor imports in the Japanese market and the prevention of alleged Japanese dumping of semiconductor exports in third countries.

Japanese and U.S. trade negotiators have been unable to agree on these two issues since they began the current

round of bilateral talks at the beginning of this year to work out a new semiconductor pact to replace the 1986 agreement, which expires at the end of July.

Because Japan and the United States use different sets of statistics in tabulating the share of foreign-made semiconductors in the Japanese market, a perception gap has developed over of how much foreign chip manufacturers, mostly American, are selling in Japan.

U.S. trade officials contend that foreign semiconductors account for 13 percent of the Japanese market, while figures used by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry show that the foreign share is 19 percent.

Japanese and U.S. trade negotiators have been trying to find a mutually acceptable formula to calculate the market share of foreign-made chips in Japan, MITI officials said.

The market share issue stems from an agreement under the 1986 pact to set aside a 20 percent market share in Japan for semiconductor imports by 1991.

Friday's talks, held at MITI, involved experts from both MITI and the U.S. Trade Representative's Office.

The principals in the semiconductor negotiations—Naomichi Suzuki, Japan's vice minister of international trade and industry, and U.S. Deputy Trade Representative Linn Williams—will join the talks on Saturday.

Official on Remarks by French Prime Minister

OW1605132291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1246 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—A top Foreign Ministry official said Thursday that some of the remarks made by new French Prime Minister Edith Cresson about Japan in the past were mistakes.

The offcial said a more "correct understanding" of Japan on her part is expected now that she has assumed a more responsible position in terms of bilateral relations.

In July of last year when Cresson was minister for European Affairs, she told a French weekly that Rocard should have avoided "kowtowing" to the Japanese, who she said were pursuing a "laser- guided economic strategy" in Europe which has resulted in the "killing" of some targeted French industries.

Cresson has previously blasted Japan for "not playing by the rules" of fair trade and for trying to "take over" Europe.

She once said Japan "has an absolute will to conquer the world," prompting the Japanese Foreign Ministry to summon the French Ambassador to hear a protest.

The Foreign Ministry has said Cresson has been "blinded by stereotyped perceptions" and "indulging in emotional outbursts."

After her July 1990 remarks, a ministry spokesman warned that "a continuation of such utterances will only discourage Japanese investors from investing in France and encourage them to look elsewhere."

Tokyo To Oppose Exclusive Western Trade Blocs

OW1705113391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1019 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Japan, opposing formation of exclusive trade blocs in North America and Europe, will urge Western nations to promote dialogue with Asian countries at the forthcoming session of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), government sources said Friday.

The OECD, a club of Western rich countries, is scheduled to hold a ministerial meeting in Paris on June 4-5.

The sources said main topics on the agenda will be the global economic situation, the trade environment—including the Uruguay Round of multinational trade negotiations and regional economic blocs—and dialogue with nonmember countries.

Japan will appeal to other OECD member countries to try to strengthen their relations with emerging Asian nations or economies, such as South Korea and Taiwan, which will likely join the ranks of advanced nations in view of their high-pitched economic growth, they said.

Japan will urge the United States and West European countries to abide by the principle of free world trade despite their moves to form free trade blocs in North America and Europe, the sources said.

Tokyo will also emphasize the importance of savings to meet the growing demand worldwide for capital to promote economic reconstruction of countries affected by the Persian Gulf conflict, they said.

The sources said Japan will also appeal to the participants to pursue a monetary policy aimed at sustained global economic growth without inflation.

Japan hopes that these common goals will be incorporated in a communique to be issued at the end of the session, the sources said.

Representatives from Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia will be invited to attend the session to hear discussions on ways for the West to assist in economic recovery in the Soviet Union and East European countries, they said.

The United States and Europe will remain apart on farm policy, the main barrier to be cleared for a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, according to the sources.

Reform Council Leader on Limited Rice Imports

OW1705121191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1140 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Sendai, May 17 KYODO—Eiji Suzuki, head of an administrative reform council appointed by the government, Friday called for partial opening of the rice market.

Suzuki, former chairman of the Japan Employers Federation, told a news conference that Japan, as a trading country, should not be isolated in the world and the question is to what extent Japan can yield on the rice issue.

He said it is impossible for the country to stick to 100 percent self-sufficiency in rice.

Suzuki proposed the conclusion of agreements with rice exporting nations on a ceiling for rice imports to alleviate anxiety among rice farmers over market liberalization.

The administrative reform council is scheduled to submit a proposal for partial liberalization of the rice market before the conclusion of the current Uruguay round of multinational trade talks.

Direct Chartered Flight to Pyongyang Begins

OW1705072691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0656 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Nagoya, May 17 KYODO—A North Korean airliner left Nagoya on Friday on a direct chartered flight to Pyongyang, the first such flight between Japan and North Korea.

The Air Korea TU-154 airliner carried about 100 passengers, mostly pro-Pyongyang Korean residents of Japan and reporters invited by the Pyongyang-based airline.

The guests are scheduled to return to Nagoya on another Air Korea charter flight Tuesday after a tour of North Korea.

Air Korea received permission Monday from the Japanese Transport Ministry to begin the round-trip chartered flights.

Air Korea hopes to carry tourists and businessmen to North Korea on further charter flights, airline officials said.

Charges of Aid Buying Sri Lanka Weapons Denied

OW1605221291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1456 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—A former Israeli spy's charges that Sri Lanka bought weapons with Japanese aid are "impossible," aid officials said Thursday.

Victor Ostrovskiy, a former member of the Mosad, Israel's secret service, charged in his recent book "By Way of Deception" that Sri Lanka bought Israeli arms for its fight with Tamil rebels with money from Japan and other countries meant for development.

The rebels are fighting for a separate homeland for the island nation's Tamil minority.

"It's impossible for the Sri Lankan Government to buy commercial arms with our loans," said Junichi Yamada, spokesman for the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), the implementing agency for Japan's loan-aid.

"Those funds are disbursed directly to Japanese project contractors," he said, adding that it was the first time he had heard of the allegation.

Ostrovskiy, now 41 and living in Canada, became disillusioned with Israeli intelligence and left in 1986.

In his book, Ostrovskiy wrote that the Colombo Government bought the weapons from Israel out of aid provided by Japan, Sweden, Canada, Germany, the United States, the European Community, and the World Bank.

The ex-spy said the aid was meant to finance the Mahaweli River project, a massive river diversion scheme for which the OECF officials said Japan has pledged some 10.6 billion yen since 1981.

Ostrovskiy alleged that Israel lent a hand to the previous Sri Lankan Government of President Junius Jayawardene in deceiving donor countries and the World Bank over the feasibility of the project.

He said Israel drew up fraudulent papers to explain the importance and cost of the project, while World Bank inspectors sent to Sri Lanka were guided in such a way that they left with the impression construction was proceeding as anticipated.

Yamada said that with the "rigid rules" applying to Japan's aid, "there is no room for the recipient country to misuse it."

He said all tenders for Japanese aid projects are open to the public, while contracts are signed according to guidelines that require thorough examination of both dispersal and billing documents.

Ostrovskiy also alleged in his book that in 1984 the Mosad had a source in the Japanese Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The man was said to be the spy agency's only source in the country at the time.

LDP Faces 'Uncertainty' in Wake of Abe Death

OW1605221391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 16 KYODO—Uncertainty in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) following the death Wednesday of former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe has been fueled Thursday by senior members of the party.

Abe, who led the second-ranked faction in the ruling party, was regarded as the strongest candidate to replace Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu after his two-year term as LDP president expires in late October.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru reportedly told LDP members that political reform should be carried out after the LDP presidential election is held late October.

In a meeting with the LDP members who oppose proposed political reform aimed at partially introducing a single-seat constituency system into the lower house, Kanemaru, main backer of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, further said, "the next cabinet should tackle election reform," according to LDP officials present at the talks.

Kanemaru, who serves as chairman of the largest faction in the LDP, later denied making such remarks at the meeting, his aides said.

However, a member of the third-largest faction, led by former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, said that Kanemaru's passive stance toward political reform indicated his readiness to withdraw support for Kaifu after the prime minister attends the economic summit of seven major industrial nations in July in London.

Kaifu, who has repeatedly expressed his resolve to tackle political and election reforms as major domestic issues, told a press conference last week that his government is determined to make a draft plan for election reform.

Meanwhile, Seiroku Kajiyama, chairman of the party's Diet Affairs Committee, proposed the same day to LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi that the party's presidential election be brought ahead one month earlier than the original schedule.

Kajiyama, who is also a senior member of the largest faction, was quoted as saying there will be no time for a new government to formulate a budget bill for fiscal 1992 if the election is held in late October.

The remarks by Kanemaru and Kajiyama triggered speculation in the LDP that the largest faction led by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita might aim to shorten the two-year term of Kaifu's presidency and set up a government headed by one of its members.

Spreading rumors that the Takeshita faction is likely to field Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto or Takeshita himself in the LDP presidential election has provided ammunition for such speculation.

Takeshita Faction Not To Support Kaifu in Oct

OW1705020791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0157 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—The largest faction in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) decided Thursday night not to endorse Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to continue as LDP president after his two-year term in the party post expires October 30, party sources said.

Leaders of the faction led by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita—former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, nominal head of the faction, former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, and Keiwa Okuda, secretary general of the faction—met and agreed to field their own candidate in the LDP presidential election scheduled for October, the sources said.

The Takeshita faction plans to field Hashimoto or Takeshita himself in the election, they said. The LDP president usually becomes prime minister because of the party's majority in the lower house of the Diet.

Kanemaru, a power broker in the party, reportedly told LDP members earlier in the day that political reform should be carried out after the LDP presidential election is held.

Kaifu, who has pledged to stake his political career on political reform, told reporters last week that he will realize political reform before his two-year term of office ends in October.

In a meeting with LDP members who oppose political reform aimed at partially introducing a single-seat constituency system in elections for the House of Representatives, Kanemaru said that the next cabinet should tackle election reform, according to LDP officials present at the talks.

Kanemaru, main backer of Kaifu, later denied making such a remark.

Seiroku Kajiyama, chairman of the party's Diet Affairs Committee, proposed the same day to LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi that the LDP presidential election be held one month earlier than the original schedule.

The death Wednesday of former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, leader of the second-largest faction in the LDP, has intensified factional rivalry in the ruling party.

Abe, who died after a two-year battle with illness, was seen as a leading candidate for the prime ministership after Takeshita. Takeshita, Abe and other political aspirants, including Kiichi Miyazawa and Michio Watanabe, both former finance ministers, were all involved in the Recruit influence-buying scandal.

Takeshita resigned in June 1989 after 19 months in office to take responsibility for the scandal.

The Takeshita faction supported Sosuke Uno, Takeshita's immediate successor, who resigned after three months in office because of a sex scandal, and subsequently, Kaifu.

Kaifu, who lacks his own power base, became prime minister in August 1989 to help establish a clean image for the government and the LDP in the wake of the Recruit scandal, and has been seen a stopgap leader.

MITI Head Nakao Hints at Turtle Import Ban

OW1705101191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0648 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao hinted Friday that Japan will ban imports of an endangered sea turtle.

Nakao told a press conference after a cabinet meeting that reducing the volume of imports is not enough to settle the issue, referring to recent U.S. criticism of Japan's imports of the hawksbill turtle, which is on the international list of endangered species.

Nakao's remarks were viewed as a virtual announcement of Tokyo's intention to ban the imports.

The U.S. has decided that Japan's commercial trading in endangered sea turtles violates the Pelly amendment to the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967.

The hawksbill is one of the sea turtles on the list of endangered species under the convention on the international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora.

The U.S. Administration must explain the steps it will take on the issue to Congress by a May 19 deadline.

Nakao will instruct Noboru Hatakeyama, director general of MITI's International Trade Policy Bureau, to convey the message to the U.S. Government during his current visit to the U.S.

Hawksbill shells are used in producing a type of traditional Japanese ornamental handicrafts known as bekko zaiku.

There are about 1,400 artisans, mainly in Nagasaki Prefecture, who use the shells.

MITI has already decided to slash imports of the turtles to five tons in the 1991 turtle year, which begins this August, from the former 20 tons a year.

MITI, however, will ask Washington to give Japan a grace period of several months to impose a complete ban so it can prepare measures to help the artisans find other jobs, a MITI official said.

U.S. Reaction Awaited

OW1705120191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 17 KYODO—Japan will ban imports of one type of endangered sea turtle in the near future, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) announced Friday.

The timeframe for imposing the ban on hawksbill turtles and what quantity of imports will be allowed until then will be decided as soon as possible, said Toyohiko Shimada, director of MITI's Recreation and Miscellaneous Goods Division.

The move came two days before the May 19 deadline by which U.S. President George Bush must explain to Congress the steps the Administration will take against Japan because of its illegal trade in the turtles.

The U.S. Government determined in March that Japan's commercial trading in endangered sea turtles violates the Pelly Amendment of the Fishermen's Protective Act of 1967.

Washington charged that Japan's continued trade in sea turtles undermines the convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITESWFF).

Japanese officials have been concerned that the U.S. will retaliate against Japan if Tokyo fails to satisfy Washington on the issue.

Japan proposed lowering its imports of the hawksbill to five tons in the 1991 turtle year, which begins in August, from the previous 20 tons.

But the U.S. has insisted on a complete ban.

Another factor behind MITI's move to ban hawksbill imports is the scheduling of next March's meeting of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species in the Japanese city of Kyoto.

As a senior MITI official said, "It would be very embarrassing if some of the member countries boycotted the Kyoto meeting because of Japan's continued imports of the sea turtles."

MITI has been resisting a complete ban on the imports on the grounds that about 1,400 Japanese artisans earn a living by making traditional handicraft items using hawksbill shells.

The items, known collectively as "bekko zaiku," include eyeglass frames, combs and pendants.

MITI's Shimada went to Nagasaki Prefecture, where the majority of the artisans live, last week to seek their support for MITI's step.

"There were strong emotional reactions from the proud artisans," he said.

Although he said MITI still hopes Japan can secure the five tons it plans to import for the 1991 turtle year, he said that amount may be curtailed.

"It is difficult to stop imports cold," Shimada said.

MITI will take measures to help the traditional artisans change jobs, he said.

MITI said it will seek help from experts on sea turtles to conduct a scientific study of how many hawksbill turtles are left.

If the study shows a complete ban on imports is not necessary to protect the sea turtle, the Japanese Government will propose at a 1994 CITESWFF meeting to list the hawksbill under Appendix II of the CITESWFF—a step that would allow restricted trade in the animal.

Commercial trade is banned in endangered species, listed under Appendix I of the treaty.

Those species include all sea turtles, all apes, lemurs, the giant panda, many South American monkeys, great whales, the cheetah, leopards, tigers, Asian elephants, and some crocodiles and lizards.

Species categorized as being at serious risk but not yet threatened with extinction are listed under Appendix II.

Appendix I species, or products based on them, are allowed to be traded only in very exceptional circumstances such as scientific exchanges.

International trade in Appendix II species is permitted with proper documentation issued by the government of the exporting country.

Japan has reservations to the convention for 10 Appendix I species—six whales, two sea turtles, and two lizards.

The MITI has already banned imports of the other sea turtle—the Olive Ridley.

It will introduce import quotas for the two lizards before long, MITI's Shimada said.

Three countries have similar reservations to the international ban on sea turtle trade, but only Japan and Cuba actually trade in the endangered animals.

The U.S. has no reservations to the convention, according to MITI.

CITESWFF came into force on July 1, 1975, and now has 110 member countries. In all, CITESWFF lists some 700 species.

Japan joined the treaty in 1980, but has often been accused of turning a blind eye to illegal trade.

Such illegal trade, which is estimated to be worth 4 billion dollars to 6 billion dollars annually around the world, is

criticized by scientists and environmental activists as quickening the already-appalling pace of extinction of wild animals.

Some scientists estimated that up to a million species will disappear by 2000.

That would mean the loss of one type of animal or plant every six minutes.

North Korea

CPRF Views South's Sentencing of Dissidents

SK1705052791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0429 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] made public an information on May 16 denouncing the South Korean authorities for sentencing to imprisonment the delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally who had participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks of the Pan-Korea Alliance for National Reunification (Pomminnyon.)

The information said:

The puppet Seoul district criminal court on May 13 held a trial of delegates of the South side's promotion headquarters of the pan-national rally Cho Yong-sul, Yi Hae-hak and Cho Song-u who had taken part in the tripartite working-level talks for Pomminnyon in Berlin in November last year and sentenced them to one year and six months' imprisonment on charge of violation of the notorious "National Security Law" [NSL].

The penalties imposed on Rev. Cho Yong-sul and two other delegates are a premeditated anti-reunification scheme to frustrate the formation of the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon and an unpardonable anti-national criminal act to block the growing reunification movement and check the road of the independent non-governmental dialogue between the North and the South.

Their meeting with delegates of the North and overseas sides in Berlin and discussion of formation of pan-national reunification movement organisation with them reflect the unanimous desire and steadfast will of the entire fellow countrymen to realise reunification in the '90s; it is a righteous action for the country and the nation and it can never be a crime.

To put behind the bars thoe who visited Pyongyang for national reunification and incriminate and punish those who had contacts with their fellow countrymen overseas is a brigandish act which can be committed only by the splittists who do not want reunification.

The South Korean ruling quarters must abolish the anti-national, anti-reunification "NSL" and other fascist laws and immediately set free woman student Yim Su-kyong, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and other visitors to the North and all the reunification patriots.

We strongly demand that the South Korean authorities cancel the unjust penalties inflicted upon Rev. Cho Yong-sul and two other personages and not disturb but allow the formation of the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon.

'Suppression' of Dissent in South Viewed

SK1705063491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0506 GMT 17 May 91

["Criminal Scheme To Suppress People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u ruling group has revealed its criminal intention to intensify suppression of the people in connection with the present situation of South Korea.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

The No ruling group alleged that "some extremist forces intend to cause a social confusion over the death of student Kang Kyong-tae and overthrow the system", "a sinister intention to foster the people's feelings of protest" has been revealed and Saromaeng, Hanminjon and other "anti-state organizations" intervened in the funeral rites for Kang Kyong-tae, and threatened to "strictly deal with them."

This clearly shows that the No ruling group is deadly afraid of the anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle of the South Korean students and people which is rising to a high tide after the murder of Kang, and is scheming to launch another reckless suppression to prevent their struggle from developing into a new resistance.

It is not by any others' "encouragement" or "manipulation" that the struggle of the people is growing rapidly in South Korea. It is an eruption of the people's bitter resentment against the present military fascist rule.

It is preposterous for the No ruling group to claim that the South Korean people's struggle is manipulated by the "left pro-communist forces" and "forces for overthrowing the system".

It is nothing but a ridiculous sophism to find a pretext of suppression.

With nothing can the No ruling group justify its fascist, murderous rule and harsh suppression.

Olympic Committee Gives Dinner for Joint Team

SK1705053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0441 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave a farewell dinner at Mokran Restaurant Thursday evening for the unified Korea soccer team which was to leave Pyongyang to participate in the 6th World Youth Football Championships.

Invited to the dinner were head Chang Chung-sik (South side) and deputy head Yi Myong-song (North side) of the unified Korea soccer team, footballers, officials and reporters.

Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the football association of the DPRK, and other sports officials were present.

Kim Yu-sun spoke at the dinner.

He congratulated the unified Korea soccer team upon its participation in the 6th World Youth Football Championships amidst the blessings of the entire fellow countrymen and said that with the formation of unified Korea soccer team the North and the South have become one, not two, in the sports field and the tragic face-off that had made our sportsmen feel sick at heart has now become a thing of the past.

He noted that the unified Korea soccer team should win the honorable title of the 6th World Youth Football Championships without fail as the unified Korea table tennis team won the women's team title of the 41st World Table Tennis Championships. He further said:

This is the way of giving joy to the fellow countrymen who are suffering from division and contributing to the accomplishment of the cause of reunification.

He expressed the hope that all the players, officials and reporters of the unified Korea soccer team will demonstrate to the world the proud sight of our harmonious and happy nation, united as one man during the championships.

Chang Chung-sik spoke next.

He expressed deep thanks to the sports officials of the North side for their efforts for a successful formation of the unified Korea soccer team and effective training of the players ever since the South side's players arrival in Pyongyang and to the Pyongyangites for their active support to the unified Korea soccer team.

Appraisal matches and joint trainings were held, the South and the North mixed together, travelling between Seoul and Pyongyang, for the formation of the unified Korea soccer team and its participation in the championships, in the wake of the reunification soccer games last year, he pointed out, adding: This is an auspicious event for the sportsmen as well as for the entire fellow countrymen.

He called upon the players to get united in the games so as to demonstrate the unity of the nation and its talent.

An art performance was given at the dinner.

Joint Soccer Team Departs North 17 May

SK1705062091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0510 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—Head Chang Chung-sik, deputy head Yi Myong-song, players and officials of the unified Korea soccer team which will participate in the 6th World Youth Football Championships and reporters left here today for Seoul.

They were seen off at Pyongyang railway station by Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the Olympic Committee of the DPRK, Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the football association of the DPRK, and other sports officials.

The soccer team will undergo training in Seoul before leaving for Portugal for the football championships.

U.S. 14 May Aerial Exercises Reported

SK1705054191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0436 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command staged an aerial war exercise against the North in the sky above South Korea on May 14, according to military sources.

Mobilized there were formations of Pacific-based F-16 fighter-bombers, and F-15 fighter-bombers, assault planes and observation planes of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, 250 in all.

The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command deployed formations of transport planes loaded wvth a huge combat equipment in the U.S. Airforce bases in South Korea from the Pacific bases.

The U.S. imperialists' U-2 high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane flew from the sky above the East Sea east of Kosong of Korea to the sky above the sea east of Sonbong County, North Hamgyong Province, along the coastal waters for an aerial espionage on the whole area of the northern half of Korea as well as the east coastal area.

The South Korean puppets sent formations of C-130 transport planes carrying "commandoes" to the sky above Songnam for a long-time military exercise aimed at infiltrating into depths of the North side. At the same time they sent ground forces to Tongduchon, Uijongbu and Pochon areas to stage a ground attack operation exercise under the support of formations of fighter planes, while mobilizing combatant ships in the West Sea for an attack exercise in the sea under a coordinated operational plan with formations of fighter-bombers.

The number of the warplanes which were mobilized in the aerial war exercises that day alone was more than 550.

Soviet Film on World War II Shown in Pyongyang

SK1505110891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1023 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—A film show was arranged in Pyongyang today on the 46th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War.

Present on the occasion were O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, officials concerned and working people in the city.

Invited there were Soviet ambassador to Korea A. Kapto and officials of his embassy.

The participants appreciated a Soviet feature film.

Active Secretaries of Party Cells Hold Meeting

SK1705113391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1037 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—A meeting of active secretaries of party cells took place here from May 10 to 12.

The participants reviewed the achievements and experience gained in the party cell work and discussed tasks to bring about a new turn in this work by further enhancing the function and role of the party cells in keeping with the requirements of the developing reality.

A report was delivered by Yun Sung-kwan, member and first vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and speeches were made by An Ho-chun, secretary of the second cell of Department No. 5 of the Korean Central News Agency; Kim Sang-hun, secretary of the mining cell No. 3 of the April 58 pit of the Kumgol Branch Mine of the Komdok Mining Complex; Kim Yun-ok, secretary of the electric hearth cell of the Steel Workshop No. 1 of the Chollima Steel Complex; and many other party cell secretaries.

The reporter and speakers said our party has directed great efforts from its inception to firmly building the party cells, the lowest basic organizations of the party, and enhancing ther function and role by successfully implementing the chuche-based line of party building advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and it has been strengthened and developed into an invincible unit with cells full of vitality.

The party cells, under the leadership of the party, have strengthened ideological education among the party members and working people and made strenuous efforts to rally them closely behind the party, thus achieving a singlehearted unity of the party and the masses of the people and greatly contributing to the strengthening and development of the party, they said.

They called for improving and strengthening the guidance to the activities of the party members to make all of them chuche-type revolutionaries who are tempered still further organizationally and ideologically and play a vanguard role in carrying out the revolutionary tasks.

They expressed the resolution to intensify the work with the masses and constantly invigorate the education in the chuche idea so as to prepare the party members and working people to be revolutionaries boundlessly faithful to the party and the revolutionary cause.

Kim Il-song Gives Congratulations

SK1705110991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1032 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song met and congratulated the participants of a meeting of active secretaries of party cells on May 17.

Present on the occasion were Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK]; O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, members of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and vice-presidents; Choe Kwang, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army; Kye Ung-tae and Han Song-yong, members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the C.C., the WPK; Hyon Mu-kwang, alternate member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Control Committee of the C.C., the WPK; Yun Ki-pok, Kim Yong-sun, Kim Chung-nin, Pak Nam-ki, So Kwan-hi and Hwang Chang-yop, members and secretaries of the C.C., the WPK; Kim Ki- nam, member and director of a department of the C.C., the WPK; and Yun Sung-kwan and Mun Song-sul, members and first vice-directors of a department of the C.C., the WPK.

President Kim Il-song congratulated the participants who have made an active contribution to strengthening and developing our party and achieving steady progress of revolution and construction by enhancing the function and role of the party cells under the leadership of the party, and posed for a photograph with them.

Chuche Theory Stressed in Building Socialism

SK1705120791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1012 GMT 17 May 91

["Chuche Theory of Building Communism Is Immortal Revolutionary Banner Pleading Cause of Socialism and Communism to Victory"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed article headlined "Chuche Theory of Building Communism Is Immortal Revolutionary Banner Leading Cause of Socialism and Communism to Victory".

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"The chuche revolutionary theory is the genuinely revolutionary theory of the working class in the chuche era and is the undying communist revolutionary theory which will be ever-victorious along with the struggle for the independence of the working masses."

The chuche theory of building socialism and communism has been evolved with the popular masses at the centre and thus it was possible to newly elucidate from a different angle from the past the law of the building of socialism and communism and comprehensively consummate it. First of all, a new exposition could be given as to the appearance of communist society and the strategic goal for its realisation.

Evolved with the popular masses at the centre, the chuche theory of building socialism and communism gives a flawless exposition of the features of communist society, a society in which the independence of the popular masses has been completely realized.

By studying the communist society with the popular masses at the centre, this theory elucidates the unique idea that if the communist society is to be built, a material fortress should be occupied and, at the same time, an ideological fortress be captured to make people communists and the whole of society be dyed in the revolutionary idea of a leader.

The theory could also indicate the correct road of building communism as it places the popular masses at the centre.

The chuche theory of building socialism and communism, by studying into the process of the building of communism with the realization of the popular masses' independence as a cardinal task, could clearly set the transition period till all class distinctions have been eliminated and a classless society realised. It also clarified the unique idea that revolution and construction should be carried on at a higher stage to completely realise the independence of the masses even after the termination of the transition period.

The theory, evolved with the popular masses at the centre, makes a unique clarification of the strategic and tactical principles to govern the building of communism with emphasis on enhancing the role of the people.

The practical experience of the Korean revolution clearly indicates the fundamental way of building communism by verifying the truth of the revolutionary theory that even after the socialist system has been established. Revolution should be continued and in this period three revolutions be carried on to eliminate the old and create the new in ideological, technical and cultural fields.

It also provides a weapon for building communism by teaching the truth that only when the role and function of the people's power are enhanced in the building of socialism, transformation of a society will be stepped up.

By verifying in particular the fact that the leadership of the party and the leader is the fundamental matter of deciding the destiny of socialist and communist construction, the practical experience of our revolution clearly proves the truth of the theory on the guidance of the party and the leader in the building of socialism and communism.

We will thoroughly apply the chuche theory of building socialism and communism whose truth has been proved in the revolutionary practice and win a brilliant victory in the building of socialism and communism, the article stresses.

Development of 'Patriotism' Factories Viewed

SK1705153291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1509 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—There are many Aeguk (patriotism) factories which have been built thanks to the whole- hearted sincerity devoted by Koreans in Japan to the socialist homeland in the capital city of Pyongyang and local cities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Aeguk factories equipped with modern production processes give a great help to the development of the national economy and the improvement of the people's living.

Aeguk building-material factories including the Mangyongdae Aeguk Aluminium Sash Factory, the Sunggil Aeguk Prefab Parts Factory, the Kilbong Aeguk Sidewalk Block Factory and the Aeguk Kitchen Unit Factory mass-produce a variety of building materials and modern fixtures, contributing to the major projects and the construction of apartment houses.

The Pyongyang Aeguk Okdang Sugar Factory, the Kyongnyon Aeguk Cider Factory, the Kyongsik Aeguk Children's Foodstuff Factory, the Pyongyang Aeguk Noodle Factory and the Aeguk Vegetable Processing Factory, etc. produce various kinds of tasty and highly nutritious foodstuffs, confectionery and cold beverages in large quantities.

The Aeguk knitted goods factory, the Aeguk Moran Garment Factory, the Kaesong Aeguk Garment Factory, the Tongdaewon Aeguk Knitted Goods Factory, the Aeguk Children's Knitted Factory presented by Korean women in Japan mass-produce large quantities of mart and knitted clothes and suits of good quality.

Particularly, the Aeguk Knitted Goods Factories are conducive to making the dressing of working people and children knitted. [sentence as received]

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic saw to it that many factories [are] named after the Koreans in Japan who are rendering patriotic, sincere services for the development and prosperity of the socialist homeland, even in a far-off alien land.

Construction of Oct 9 General Steel Works Noted

SK1405103091 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1015 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—The October 9 General Steel Works is being built at a fast tempo in the west area of Korea.

More than 80 percent of the steel structure of the electric hearth ground of the steel shop with a floor space of more than 25,000 square metres has been assembled.

Over 5,000 foundation pillars have been erected and groundwork concrete tamping is in full swing in the project of production buildings of ten objects including steel dust-absorbing ground, scrap iron processing ground, lime calcinating kiln, oxygen plant and projects of equipment foundations.

The builders of the works are now continuously expanding their achievements.

Early Rice Planting in West Coast Area Noted

SK1005104691 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Rice transplanting has just begun in the rural communities on the west coast of Korea.

The rural communities in Chaeryong, Yoldusamcholli, Yongchon and other plain areas, granaries of the country, are pressing ahead with rice transplanting by actively using rice-seedling plucking machines and rice-seedling transplanters while giving precedence to harrowing by raising the utility rate of tractors.

In Korea there has been established a powerful irrigation system to supply sufficient water to all the paddy and non-paddy fields.

With the construction of 800 kilometres of stream channels, the Taedong and Yesong Rivers, the Amnok and Taenyong Rivers have been linked into one irrigatiom network which supplies enough water to all the non-paddy and paddy fields in the western granary areas. Thus the irrigation system in the rural economy has further developed and strengthend.

The rural communities throughout the country secured enough water this year before starting rice-transplanting.

Agricultural Progress on Chongsan Plain Viewed

SK1705030491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1506 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 16 (KCNA)—Rice-transplanting is in full swing on the Chongsan Plain, a land with a history.

Paddy fields are turning green amid the buzzing sound of tractors and rice transplanting machines.

Agricultural working people there are making haste with their work with the goal of finishing by May 25 rice-transplanting which is of importance in the farming for the year.

Chongsan-ri is a time-honored place where the great leader President Kim Il-song founded the Chongsan-ri spirit and Chongsan-ri method, the guiding idea and method of mass leadership.

President Kim Il-song unfolded long ago a far-reaching plan of making Chongsan-ri a model of communist rural community and has wisely led the work toward this end.

This far-reaching plan has been brilliantly carried into practice under the meticulous guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He gave on-the-spot guidance to Chongsan-ri on more than 20 occasions.

His guidance in May 1971 was of historical importance.

That day, he went to the Chongsan Plain where he planted rice-seedlings together with farmers and indicated the tasks facing Chongsan-ri in socialist rural construction, saying that it should advance ahead of other areas of the country in carrying on the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, farm work be done with the help of machines, rural villages be well built up and the living of the farmers be improved still further.

Under his deep loving care, Chongsan-ri has been converted into a modern socialist rural community good to work and live in.

Formed with a draught ox, the farm has now more than 100 tractors and lorries, and rice-transplanting and rice-plucking machines and trailing farm machines and other powerful mechanized means, over 1,000 of 40 kinds in all.

Over the last 20 years agricultural production jumped 1.8 times in rice, 2.3 times in maize, 1.7 times in vegetables, 1.2 times in eggs and 4 times in meat, fruit and silkworm cocoons.

Farmers are living an affluent and happy life at cosy dwelling houses surrounded by fruit trees.

At present, the farm has as many as 300 engineers, specialists and assistant engineers. Most farmers are studying in a correspondence course.

Nearly all farmers know how to drive tractors and operate other farm machines.

There is a farmers' college under a study-while-working system in Chongsan-ri.

Background of Wonsan History Museum Viewed

SK1705152591 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1459 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—The Wonsan History Museum is situated in Myongsok-dong, Wonsan, Kangwon Province.

In March 1952 when the Korean war was at its height, the government of the DPRK took a decision to found the museum to preserve historical relics of the country.

On display there are as many as 4,278 pieces of historical relics and materials mostly unearthed in the province.

Included among the exhibits are the one-million-year-old Komunmoru relics which prove that our country is one of the birthplaces of the human race and more than 150 stone axes, whetstones, stone arrowheads, stone hatchets and other primitive relics unearthed in Oksong Earthen Castle in Munchon County, Samil Lake in Kosong County, Chungpyong-ri of Wonsan, and other areas.

Exhibited in the ancient age hall are territorial maps of such ancient kingdoms of our country as Kojoson, Puyo and Chinguk and murals of the Koguryo Tombs and materials of the tombs with murals including the murals of the Anhak Tomb No. 3 the colors of which remain unfading still now when a thousand and several hundred years have passed.

Daggers of Pipa (a Korean mandolin) style known to belong to the 8th-6th centuries B.C., bronze weapons such as narrow brass dagger unearthed in Namchon-ri, Wonsan, fine groove-patterned mirror, earthenware and other precious relics, over 180 items in all, are also on display.

Of great academic importance are materials on the Chomsongdae, an observatory in Kyongju built in the 7th century, the world's first metal types, the metal hyetometre, the astronomical chart, the photographs of wooden block of the complete collection of Buddhist scriptures printed from 80,000 wooden blocks, a gold crown and earrings showing the high gold and silver craftsmanship

and Koryo celadons of distinguished color and shapes. All these give glimpses of the developed culture of the ancestors.

Besides, the museum shows upwards of 300 relics of the Yi Dynasty, gold-plated bronze figures of Buddha newly unearthed in Mt. Kumgang and over 20 pieces of relics discovered in Kosong and Tongchon counties.

KCNA Review of 17 May Pyongyang Press

SK1705061591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 17 May 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang May 17 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of greetings President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent to Harald the Fifth, King of Norway, on the occasion of the national day of the Kingdom of Norway.

According to the press, congratulatory messages or letters came to the great leader President Kim Il-song from various countries on the occasion of his birthday.

Foreign newspapers edited special writeups praising the greatness of President Kim Il-song on the occasion of the 15th of April, says NODONG SINMUN.

The press informs the readers that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia.

An article of NODONG SINMUN says that President Kim Il-song called at a rural party cell in Chagang Province on January 12, 1948 and led it to increase its function and role as a basic organisation of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The work of Comrade Kim Chong-il "the Workers' Party of Korea organizes and guides all the victories of our people" was studied and disseminated in different countries, says the paper.

Given in the press is an account of a seminar held in Pyongyang to mark the 5th anniversary of the publication of "Let Us Effect a new Upsurge in Producing Works of Revolutionary Art and Literature", a work of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

On this occasion, MINJU CHOSON runs an article titled "Highly Important Guideline Which Brought About New Upsurge in Creation of Revolutionary Literary and Art Works".

In an artice headlined "Chuche Theory of Building Communism Is Immortal Revolutionary Banner Leading Cause of Socialism and Communism to Victory" NODONG SINMUN says that in his recent programmatic works, Comrade Kim Chong-il clarified the originality and validity of the chuche theory of building socialism and communism.

Econews of the press includes a report about the on-going rice- transplanting on cooperative farms.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk sent a message of greetings to Fatos Nano upon his appointment as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania, says the press.

The press reports that the Olympic Committee of the DPRK gave a farewell dinner for the unified Korea soccer team, official of the team Yi Chong-hwan (South side) met with his younger brothers in Pyongyang and some members of the soccer team toured Pyongyang and local areas.

South Korean news of the press includes reports that over 400,000 members of 460 trade unions in all parts of South Korea declared a general strike, the National Council of Student Representatives vowed to continue the struggle for ousting the present "regime" and opposition parties accused the authorities of blocking the funeral service for student Kang Kyong-tae and demanded the resignation of the "cabinet", the dissolution of the white bone group [plain clothes riot police] and the release of democratic figures.

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary denounces the South Korean authorities for openly attempting to intensify suppression of the people.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are continuing military exercises against the North, says the paper.

"The South Korean military fascist dictatorship is a product of the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule" and "the 'National Security Law' must not be revised but be abrogated" are the titles of articles of NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON.

International news columns of the press include reports that a banquet was arranged in Moscow in honour of Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party of China and chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China, the president of the State Presidency of Yugoslavia referred to the gravity of home situation, former chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union Nikolay Ryzhkov elaborated on the internal crisis, the Angolan president confirmed that peace process in the country should not be turned back and the president of Zambia called for unity of people of all strata in South Africa.

NODONG SINMUN introduces the building of a new society in Egypt, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Botswana, Uganda, Tunisia and Madagascar.

National day of Norway is observed by the press.

Latin American countries are stepping up the process of regional integration with concerted efforts to develop the economy, says NODONG SINMUN.

South Korea

Temperatures of North Nuclear Site Disputed

SK1705010091 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 17 May 91 p 3

[Text] The ground temperature in Yongbyon, North Korea, where nuclear reprocessing facilities are located, shot up briefly at around 3 a.m. Tuesday, the Science-Technology Ministry said yesterday.

The Ministry said it was notified by the National Fisheries Research and Development Agency (NFRDA) that at that time the temperature around the Yongbyon area, 96 km north of Pyongyang, abnormally went up to 35 degrees C from the normal temperature of 10-15 degrees C.

The NFRDA, an affiliate of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry, received the data from an earth observation satellite of the U.S. National Ocean and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA). The NOAA satellite circles the earth every 110 minutes and transmits data to stations across the globe.

The information immediately fuelled suspicion that North Korea, which has refused to place its nuclear facilities under international safeguard inspection, might have conducted an underground test of a nuclear explosive device, driving up the temperature in the Yor gbyon area.

Another theory is that there might have been a nuclear accident.

The Ministry immediately ordered environmental radioactivity monitoring offices in eight provinces to measure and analyze possible fallout, floating particles, rain, potable water and the atmospheric radioactivity rate, only to find that there was nothing abnormal with them.

The Korea Meteorolcgical Administration (KMS) also said it was not aware of any abrupt temperature change in the Yongbyon area at that time. The weather office receives meteorological data from 20 regions in North Korea every three hours under an international meteorological data exchange accord.

"According to the data we received at that time, the temperatures in the Yongbyon area were 10-15 degrees C," said a KMA official at the satellite department. "We did not find anything abnormal.

The weatherman added, "Perhaps there was an error in the satellite transmission or monitoring systems and computer programs at the NFRDA."

North-South Soccer Team Arrives for Training

SK1705093691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0859 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Members of Korea's first joint football team, which will play in the world youth soccer championships, arrived in the South on Friday via the truce village of Panmunjom from Pyongyang for their second training session.

The joint team had its first training session in the North Korean capital from Monday through Thursday.

Kim Chong-sik said in a statement that formation of the team was the precious fruit of the Korean people's aspirations for reunification and promised that the united team would meet the expectations of the Korean people both at home and abroad.

The 62 players and staff will stay in Seoul for five days, during which they will play the local league side Yukong, and leave for Portugal on Tuesday.

North May Attend World Scout Jamboree in South

SK1705024991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang, North Korea, May 17 (YONHAP)—North Korea may take part in August's world scout jamboree in South Korea, a senior North Korean sports official said Thursday.

Choe Yong-hae, 44, head of the North Korean Football Association and chairman of the League of Socialist Working Youth, told reporters that North Korea was giving affirmative consideration to allowing North Korean scouts to participate in the jamboree.

Exchanges between South and North Korean youths should be made in all fields, and not confined to sports, he said.

"In this context, we are positively examining the invitation to the world scout jamboree from Kim Sok-won, president of the Boy Scouts of Korea," he said.

The joint Korean youth football team left for Seoul Friday morning for further training in the South in preparation for the World Youth Soccer Championship in Portugal next month.

Choe said he was not sure when North Korea would notify the organizers of the jamboree of its plans because the decision was linked to an exchange between the Socialist Youth League and Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives], the largest organization of radical students in South Korea.

Choe said that making "unification soccer matches" (games between the two sides designed to accelerate the mood for unification of the Korean peninsula) a regular event and hosting the Dynasty Cup International Soccer Tournament in Pyongyang this year were possible.

South and North Korea played the first unification soccer game in Pyongyang and a return match was held in Seoul after the Beijing Asiad last October.

Kim U-chung, president of Seoul's Korea Football Association , has proposed to Choe here that unification soccer matches be held regularly.

Making unification soccer a regular fixture will be discussed in South-North Korean sports talks due after the World Youth Soccer Championship, Choe said.

Yi Sang-ok on Support Agreement With U.S.

SK1705070391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0629 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States will conclude an accord on wartime host nation support (WHNS) during the annual South Korea-U.S. security consultative meeting [SCM] in Seoul in November, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Friday.

Yi told a news conference that Korea and the United States differed on some clauses of a WHNS draft agreement during working-level negotiations that ended in Washington Thursday.

Yi said he would try his best to iron out the differences in meetings of the four-member joint committee, on which he sits with the defense minister, the U.S. ambassador to Korea and the U.S. commander of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command.

On sharing of defense cost with the United States, Yi said Korea would increase its share commensurate with its economic and financial situation and since Korea should take the lead in its own security. [sentence as received]

The government would try to settle the problem before the November SCM meeting, he said.

Asked to comment on Japan's dispatch of its Self-Defense Forces abroad, Yi said he would reveal the government position in due time but first would watch the direction of debate in Japan for a concrete development.

Touching on the Sino-Soviet summit in Moscow, Yi said that the government did not contact either side because the summit was bilateral but that it was watching closely.

China Reportedly Asks Hard Currency From North

SK1705014991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 May 91 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (YONHAP)—North Korea was told to use hard currency when trading with its long-standing ally China beginning next year, a leading Japanese newspaper reported here Thursday.

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN, citing a government source, said that China notified North Korea of the decision when Prime Minister Li Peng visited Pyongyang May 3-6.

Pyongyang and Beijing have so far exchanged goods on a barter trade formula.

According to the source, the decision was confirmed when Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama met with Chinese Minister for Economic Relations and Trade Li Lanqing in Tokyo recently. The Chinese minister accompanied Li Peng during the North Korea visit.

Earlier, the Soviet Union also asked North Korea to pay for trading goods in cash beginning Jan. 1 this year, the paper noted, adding that the new measures will further worsen North Korea's sagging economy.

It will also affect the ongoing talks on normalizing relations between Tokyo and Pyongyang, the paper said.

Moscow To Rewrite Purchase Order From Seoul

SK1705025691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union will rewrite the list of industrial materials and consumer goods Moscow is to buy with tied loans from Seoul, officials at the Trade and Industry Ministry said Friday.

V.N. Kotevskiy, director-general for Asian affairs at the Soviet External Economic Ministry, will lead a four-person team to Seoul Monday for meetings with Korean officials on drawing up a new purchase list.

The two countries agreed in early march that Moscow would buy 34 industrial materials and consumer goods with 1.5 billion U.S. dollars in tied loans from Seoul. Korean banks are to extend the first tranche of 500 million dollars Friday as part of a 3 billion-dollar economic aid package.

Cold rolled sheet for construction, sports shoes, polypropylene , medical equipment and cigarettes are among the items agreed on in talks in Moscow in late February.

The Soviet side is expected to ask that an order for 5 million sports shoes be scrapped and replaced with petrochemicals, that 5,000 tons of polyester textiles be tripled to 15,000 tons, that electric and electronics goods be expanded fivefold or sixfold and that telephone wires worth 15 million dollars be cut to 7 million dollars.

Korea will propose slashing storage battery exports to 300,000- 400,000 from 1 million because of shortages since a fire broke out at a battery factory.

Bulgarian Foreign, Finance Ministers Arrive

SK1605022891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0210 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 16 (YONHAP)—Bulgarian Foreign Minister Viktor Vulkov arrived in Seoul Thursday for a three-day official visit.

Vulkov is to meet with his Korean counterpart Yi Sang-ok Thursday afternoon to discuss political and economic cooperation between the two nations, and is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on President No Tae-u on Friday.

He is accompanied by Finance Minister Ivan Kostov.

Korea and Bulgaria set up diplomatic relations in March 1990.

Agreement on Cooperation Funds

SK1605141391 Seoul YONHAP in English 1302 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 16 (YONHAP)—South Korea agreed on Thursday to extend some five million U.S. dollars from its economic development and cooperation fund, to Bulgaria to help the country set up a color television factory, the Foreign Ministry said.

It said Korea agreed to send a government fact-finding team to Bulgaria to find out exactly how much money would be needed.

Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok met with visiting Bulgarian Foreign Minister Victor Vulkov and they agreed on signing investment protection and double taxation relief agreements as soon as possible.

Later, Vulkov told a press conference that Bulgaria would support simulnaneous entry of South and North Korea into the United Nations but still not object to sole entry of the South.

He will pay a courtesy call on President No Tae-u Friday.

Double Taxation Avoidance Agreed

SK1705032291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0255 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—The Governments of South Korea and Bulgaria initialled a double taxation avoidance agreement Friday under which Korean companies in Bulgaria not only receive the same treatment and protection as Bulgarian firms but pay less tax on incomes from dividends, interest and rent.

The agreement was initialed here by the Korean Finance Ministry's director-general of tax affairs, Yun Chung-hyon, and the Bulgarian Finance Ministry's director-general of international affairs, Todor D. Tabakov, after two days of working-level meetings.

The pact, which is expected to contribute to furthering of economic cooperation, is likely to be effective in early 1992 after formal signing and ratification by the two parliaments.

Two-way trade was 38 million U.S. dollars last year, but no investment has been made until now.

Capital Garrison Command Increases Readiness

SK1705124991 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] It has been learned that in connection with the recent political situation, on 9 May, the Capital Garrison Command instructed units under its command to step up readiness for operations to quell demonstrations. In connection with this, Kim Chi-uk, a spokesman for the ROK Defense Ministry, has said that the instruction by the Capital Garrison Command to step up readiness for operations is merely designed to prepare for the infiltration of North Korea's unconventional warfare units under circumstances in which chaos has continued at present and that this has nothing to do with demonstrations and other civilian affairs.

High-School Demonstrators Clash With Police

SK1705015691 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 May 91 p 3

[Text] Hundreds of high school students in Kangjin, Chollanam-to, took to the street yesterday, denouncing the government for the killing of Kang Kyong-tae.

Over 700 students at Kangjin High School marched out of their school, clashing with riot police.

It was the first time that high school students stage demonstration in connection with the Kang's death.

No Vows Comprehensive Measures To Restore Calm

SK1705114991 Seoul YONHAP in English 1058 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u on Friday promised comprehensive measures to restore calm in the crisis-ridden country but said he is against an immediate cabinet reshuffle, a key issue in his proposed solutions.

The president, vowing heavy-handed crackdown on subversive activities, charged the opposition for "undemocratic acts" by joining protesters and pleaded that workers return to their worksites to prevent a dangerous regression of national economy.

Senior presidential secretary Son Chu-hwan, relaying the contents of the afternoon meeting between No and his Democratic Liberal Party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, said the two leaders widely sought solutions to the growing unrest and anti-government sentiments.

Cabinet shakeup, demanded by student, academic, religious and opposition leaders as the critical solution to the national crisis, was discussed at the No-Kim meeting, Son said, but the president is not considering an immediate reshuffle.

The remarks suggest the shakeup may be possible after the recent wave of protests die down.

"The people are deeply concerned about the growing unrest and are looking for the government to take bold measures. The government will seek solutions that will answer to these wishes," No was quoted as saying.

The 70-minute meeting follows increasing call from both ruling and opposition camps for resignation of prime minister No Chae-pong and his cabinet, demanding they take responsibility for the police killing of a Seoul collegian April 26.

Violent clashes continue since the student's death, largest since No took office in February 1988, and another mass demonstration is feared Saturday when funeral procession in downtown Seoul coincides with the 11th anniversary of the 1980 pro-democracy civil uprising in Kwangju.

Kim, the No. 2 man in the DLP, reported the growing opinion within the party that cabinet stepdown is inevitable and proposed a reshuffle at an earliest date possible, according to the secretary.

He said the reshuffle should not be rooted in reprimanding the officials for the student's death but in allaying the unrest and public fear, recommending that the cabinet be replaced sometime mid-next week.

No reiterated his position that he will not tolerate violent protests or any subversive activities, saying the recent demonstrations are directed at overthrowing the democratic government.

He lashed out at the opposition camps for "undemocratic acts," stressing that the current situation calls for dialogue but not challenge against the government or instigation of unrest.

Voicing concern over workers' participation in the protests, No warned that workers' strike may cause a dangerous digression in the national economy at its critical stage.

The No-Kim meeting comes after series of contacts No has been making with social and political leaders to seek advices on drawing up solution measures.

Earlier in the day, No invited six opinion leaders to lunch where each made suggestions on solving the crisis.

The six men included Ko Chae-pil, a lawyer: Hyon Sung-chong, Hallim University president: Kim Hong-su, chairman of the Korean Bar Association: Son In-sil, vice president of the Korea National Red Cross: Yang Ho-min, publisher of a well-known political magazine: and Chong Chun, a member of the Constitutional Assembly.

The opinion leaders, calling attention to the basic roots of public discontent, urged equal distribution of wealth, anti-real estate speculation and answers to other major pressing social issues.

Unions Urged To 'Calm Down,' Use Dialogue

SK1705061391 Seoul YONHAP in English
0512 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Heads of five major economic organizations appealed to unions Friday to calm down and solve disputes through dialogue.

They said that going ahead with a walkout on Saturday, the 11th anniversary of the Kwangju uprising, would deflect attention from labor problems to political issues and might weaken Korea's already distressed economy.

The outlawed dissident labor organization Chonnohyop and other labor groups have called for workers to strike Saturday and join protest marches over the deaths of a jailed union leader and a student killed by riot policemen April 26.

The five are Federation of Korean Industries Chairman Yu Chang-sun, Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Kim Sang-ha, Korea Foreign Trade Association Chairman Pak Yong-hak, Council of Korea Employers' Organization Chairman Yi Tong-chan and Small Business Promotion Foundation President Hwang Seung-min.

No To Meet Civic Leaders Amid Cabinet Rumors

SK1705014591 Seoul YONHAP in English
0054 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u is to meet with the leaders of various segments of Korean society on Friday and Saturday amid growing rumors that a cabinet reshuffle is imminent to quiet intensifying public protests over the police killing of a student demonstrator.

Sources in No's Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] said he would have lunch with Son In-sil, vice president of the Korea National Red Cross, Hyong Sung-chong, president of the Korean Federation of Teachers Associations, former Health and Social Affairs Minister Ko Chae-pil and a few other prominent figures on Friday.

Later in the day, the president will meet with Kim Yong-sam, DLP executive chairman, to discuss ways of bringing the volatile situation under control.

On Saturday, No will listen to the opinions of former opposition leaders Yi Chol-sung, Yi Min-u, Yu Chi-song and Yi Man-sop, the sources said.

Within a few days after Kang Kyong-tae, a Myongji university freshman, was clubbed to death by riot policemen in Seoul on April 26, No fired the home minister. He has since affirmed that there would be no more actions against high-ranking officials in connection with the incident, in spite of persistent demands by opposition parties and dissident groups for the dismissal the entire cabinet headed by Prime Minister No Chae-pong.

During a private meeting on Thursday, the president reportedly told the prime minister, "Remain firm in your convictions and do your best to maintain law and order."

No has repeatedly rejected the opposition calls for his resignation and No's chief secretary, Kang Yong-sik, denied Friday that the prime minister offered to resign Thursday.

The main opposition New Democratic Party issued a statement Thursday evening accusing No of failing to understand the root cause of the current situation. Increasing numbers of professors and secondary school teachers are calling for the resignation en bloc of the cabinet.

DLP sources admitted that No's aides and party leaders agreed there was a need for a cabinet shake-up, but added that they differed on the timing and scale.

One of the sources said a cabinet reshuffle was likely to be positively weighed after the protest rallies and demonstrations cooled down. Intense anti-government protests are expected across the country Saturday, the 11th anniversary of the Kwangju citizens' uprising.

The countermeasure committee for Kang's death, a loosely-knit grouping of more than 50 dissident organizations, plans to hold funeral rites for the slain student on City Hall Plaza in the heart of Seoul on Saturday. The event, blocked by police Tuesday, has been banned.

A nationwide dissident labor movement, Chonnohyop [National Council of Labor Unions], has called on workers to take the day off and stage massive demonstrations in protest over Kang's death. The government has made it plain that it would sternly deal with any illegal strike.

Kim Tae-chung Sends Letters to UN Members

SK1705025191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0102 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung has asked the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and France to help South and North Korea join the United Nations simultaneously.

The president of the main opposition New Democratic Party sent letters to the four permanent members of the U.N. Security Council via their embassies in Seoul early this week in which he appealed for the Security Council to invite both South and North Korea to join the organization in the fall, Kim's aide said.

Kim said in the letters that admission of South Korea alone was an incomplete expression of the will of the Korean nation and would have a negative influence on peace on the Korean Peninsula by heightening tension between South and North Korea.

Kim sent similar letters to U.N. General-Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev earlier this month, an action that prompted the Foreign Ministry to register its displeasure.

Kim will send a similar letter to Beijing, one of the five permanent U.N. Security Council members, soon through the Chinese Trade Representative Office in Seoul, the aide said.

Yi Sang-ok Criticizes Letters

SK1705062191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0519 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Friday it was "not helpful for the national interest" for opposition leader Kim Tae-chung to write to members of the U.N. Security Council about Korea's bid to join the world body.

Kim, president of the New Democratic Party, sent letters to the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and France via their embassies here asking them to help South and North Korea join the United Nations simultaneously.

South Korea has said it will apply alone for U.N. membership this year if North Korea sticks to its argument that both Koreas should share a seat in the international body.

"It is the government's position that the sending of such letters by an opposition party to international organizations or representative organs of foreign countries causes confusion over government policy," Yi said.

The letters were not in the national interest, and if the opposition party had a different opinion from the government it should keep it within the nation, he said.

NDP To Start 'Report-to-Nation' Rallies

SK1705024791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 17 (YONHAP)—The main opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) will launch an anti-government campaign Sunday with rallies in Seoul, Pusan, Inchon, Taejon and Songnam, accusing the government of security-oriented rule and denouncing the bludgeoning to death of student demonstrator Kang Kyong-tae by riot policemen.

At the "report-to-nation" rallies, NDP President Kim Tae-chung will state the party line on the current unrest and call for the resignation en bloc of the cabinet, dissolution of the plain-clothed riot police, a guaranteed right to hold peaceful demonstrations and the release of prisoners of conscience.

Depending on how things go, the political offensive may be expanded to include demands for President No Tae-u to step down. Kim has warned the government he will respond strongly if his demands are still ignored on Sunday.

The NDP has temporarily scheduled the report-to-nation rallies for May 19 to 26, but will begin campaigning for local elections after renaming the rallies party member unity meetings if the date of the election is announced before May 26.

An NDP delegation led by senior supreme member Yi U-chung will attend a memorial service for the 'May 18 Kwangju democratic movement' of 1980 in Mangwoldong Cemetery in Kwangju on Saturday.

Tentative rally dates are May 19, Taejon: May 21, Songnam: May 22, Inchon and Puchon: May 25, Seoul: and May 26, Pusan.

* Presidential Aspirants Plan Foreign Trips

912C0197A Seoul IRYO SINMUN in Korean 24 Mar 91 p 2

[Article by reporter Yi Yun-sam: "The Three Presidential Aspirants, Kim Yong-sam, Kim Tae-chung and Pak Chol-on, Launching 'Diplomacy for Presidency'—They Plan To Visit the United States or North Korea Around May in an Image-Building Race"]

[Text] A "diplomacy for presidency" race is picking up heat among the presidential contenders of the ruling and opposition camps—Kim Yong-sam, chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], and Pak Chol-on, director of the Juvenile Department of the Sports Ministry, and Kim Tae-chung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD].

Kim Yong-sam, revealing his readiness to consider an early DLP convention, disclosed on 14 March his "plan to visit the United States in mid-May." And, as if timed with it, rumors of Pak Chol-on "studying a May visit to North Korea" began circulating, drawing public concerns over the two persons' diplomatic moves. Meanwhile, the PPD is

also making meticulous preparations to revive Kim Tae-chung's U.S. visit which was originally planned for February but proved abortive. Thus, a full-scale "war of diplomacy" is about to start between the three.

Part of Program for Presidency

Kim Yong-sam's U.S. visit plan is seen as particularly noteworthy because it is closely connected with a series of his strategic plans concerning future political developments which are aimed at securing his position and the position of the RDP [Reunification Democratic Party] faction within the DLP in connection with an early convening of the DLP convention, and with irregularities involving the plan to abolish the fall grain prices approval system.

Especially, the fact that Kim Yong-sam touched on the issue of the next DLP convention, although in a roundabout way, by saying that he will "consider the matter of convening an extraordinary party convention after the June nationwide local elections" is seen as signaling the first serious step he has taken in his bid to win the presidency, which represents a program of life-and-death significance to himself and his RDP faction.

More specifically, his announcement on convening the DLP convention at an early date is viewed as a "process in his political program targeted on the presidency" indicating that he will firmly establish his exercise of party endorsement authority over candidates running in the 14th general elections and, on that basis, secure his chance of success for the next presidency.

Although his reference to his U.S. visit in May appeared to be a casual one, he reportedly has completed prior contacts with the U.S. side concerning the visit. It was made clear that on 13 March, before he made the announcement at a press conference on 14 March, Kim Yong-sam, with Rep. Chong Chae-mun, DLP, visited U.S. Ambassador Donald P. Gregg to sound the latter's opinion.

Disclosing part of his itinerary, Kim Yong-sam told the 14 March press conference that he "will go the United States for a week in about the middle of May to meet political leaders there and visit the Asian University Foundation and other places." As many pointed out, it was more than a casual comment; rather it showed that there had been some elaborate preparations made already.

Kim Yong-sam twice planned to visit the United States after his March 1990 visit to the USSR. He originally planned to leave for Washington immediately after the USSR visit to brief U.S. authorities on what he accomplished in Moscow; however, due to criticisms that such a direct visit would "not look good," he sent Rep. Chong Chae-mun—his right-hand man on foreign policy affairs—as his representative.

Again in September 1990, he planned to visit Washington for talks with U.S. leaders in various fields but was forced to postpone it because of the Gulf crisis.

No specific details of Kim Yong-sam's itinerary have been disclosed except that a team led by Kim Chong-won, special assistant to the DLP Supreme Committee, and including Ho Yong-san, Kim's secretary in charge of foreign affairs, and Rep. Chong Chae-mun, is working on it.

The key point of the Kim Yong-sam visit is if a meeting with President Bush, whose reelection is considered a certainty, will materialize. At this moment, whether or not there will be a Kim-Bush meeting remains an unknown quantity as prior arrangements are yet to be completed. Also, Kim Yong-sam himself will likely work for an opportunity to address a Senate-House joint session.

Anyhow, according to observers, Kim Yong-sam will press for an early DLP convention on the basis of final passage of reform legislation through the National Assembly extraordinary session in April, a U.S. visit in May and victory in the nationwide local elections in June.

Meanwhile, on the same day Kim Yong-sam announced his plan to "visit the United States in May," words leaked by the Juvenile Department of the Sports Ministry had it that Pak Chol-on, director of the department, is studying plans to visit North Korea.

The rumor did not come from Pak Chol-on himself but from Kim Yong-kyun, deputy director of the department. That day Pak had left for Chonju to attend a "sports science seminar to prepare for the national sports festival," which began at 0900 on 15 March.

Deputy Director Kim Yong-kyun on 14 March disclosed that "it is likely that Director Pak will take part in the second evaluation game being held in Pyongyang on 8 May for the forming of a single North-South team to participate in the sixth World Juvenile Soccer Championships."

Needless to say, Pak's Pyongyang tour will take the form of a return visit to Kim Yu-sun, chairman (minister level) of the North Korean State Sports Committee, who is expected to take part in the first evaluation game scheduled for 4 May in Seoul. If Chairman Kim Yu-sun's Seoul visit fails to materialize, there will be no telling if Pak's Pyongyang visit will materialize either. It is known that the government is currently in vigorous behind-the-scenes contacts with the North Korean side on this matter.

Vigorous Behind-the-Scenes Contacts With North

In case the return visit materializes, Pak Chol-on will go to Pyongyang via Panmunjom with the South and North Korean soccer teams. He will watch the second evaluation game on 8 May; altogether, he will stay in North Korea 5 days and 4 nights, returning to Seoul on 9 May, again via Panmunjom.

The reason Pak Chol-on's Pyongyang visit attracts attention is that while in North Korea, Pak is expected to discuss with high North Korean officials a broad range of issues pending between the two parts of Korea, including economic exchanges, Mt. Kumkang development plans as well as sports exchanges.

In that case, it is likely that Pak will meet with Vice President Yi Chong-ok—whom he had met at the time of the Asian Games in Beijing—and other high-level North Koreans, discussing with them pending North-South issues

in sports, with a focus on plans concerning reunified soccer games to be held on a regular basis, a tour of exchange training events through various places in the North and the South, private-level exchange games including college teams, and North Korea's participation in the World Jamboree scheduled for August in Kosong, Kangwon Province. These things are all interrelated with what Pak Chol-on has persistently been pushing for—"an open North Korea through sports exchanges."

Meanwhile, North Korea has lately hinted that it prefers direct trade to the indirect trade through third countries. Also based on his record in promoting Nordpolitik in the past, observers say that Pak will discuss a wide range of problems in economic cooperation too, including exchange of goods.

Despite the "possible North Korea visit by Director Pak" suggested by Deputy Director Kim Yong-kyun in person on 14 March, the Juvenile Department of the Sports Ministry issued a statement the next day officially denying the "rumor of a North Korea visit allegedly planned by Director Pak Chol-on." The statement issued by the department's spokesman said: "In respect to reports concerning a visit in May to North Korea by Pak Chol-on, director of the Juvenile Department of the Sports Ministry, carried in some morning papers dated 15 March, we would like to make it clear that no such visit has ever been considered or decided on as of this date."

While there has been no official explanation as to why the department promptly moved to deny the reports, a prevailing interpretation cites, as the reason, the fact that Pak's Pyongyang visit is linked to Chairman Kim Yu-sun's Seoul visit and, consequently, the prospects are uncertain.

Anyway, Pak Chol-on has been working on his three pet programs—democratic development, national reconciliation and national reunification. Especially, he has been striving to realize North-South exchanges as a preliminary step to national reunification, mobilizing various channels to that end.

It has also been known that Pak Chol-on will attend the world table tennis championships to open in Japan on 26 April—which will be the first event for a single North-South Korean team to participate in—and discuss pending issues in sports with high-level North Korean figures.

In the case of PPD President Kim Tae-chung, he originally planned to visit the United States 16-20 February. He was to speak at a special lecture meeting at the University of Missouri. He postponed the visit, however, because of his busy schedule with the February extraordinary session of the National Assembly and other domestic problems.

At the lecture meeting—where such people as Henry Kissinger, former British Prime Minister Wilson and former President Carter's adviser Brzezinski made speeches—Kim Tae-chun was to speak under the title "Where Is Korea Headed?" He was also to meet with former President Reagan, and Vice President Quayle, who is also president of the Senate, during the visit.

To Meet With Reagan, Quayle

At the time, observers said that Kim Tae-chung's visit would focus on improving Korea-U.S. relations and build his reformist image. They pointed out that his shifting to a "moderate response" posture from his hard-line position over the issue of additional support for the Gulf War was also for the same purpose. Kim Tae-chung also met with U.S. Ambassador Gregg prior to the planned visit, showing the importance he attached to the visit.

No concrete itinerary has been made public of Kim Tae-chung's future U.S. visit. "Presently we are maintaining close contacts" with the U.S. side, said a PPD official, adding that "there has been no concrete itinerary decided as yet."

Meanwhile, a prominent university in the United States suggested that it would confer an honorary doctorate on Kim Tae-chung during the visit. In this connection, since it is normally between early May and early June that such degrees are conferred, it is thought that his visit will take place approximately in that period.

On the other hand, some within the PPD are of the opinion that the domestic political agenda may make such a visit difficult. A convention of promoters for what is tentatively called the New Democratic Coalition Party is scheduled for 23 March and the PPD is currently spurring merger efforts with it. For this and other reasons, the PPD is having its busiest time now and they feel that it will be difficult for Kim Tae-chung to make the visit at this time.

In fact, the PPD has long been working on plans to change its title and be absorbed into and merged with the New Democratic Coalition Party and thus to find its place as a national party. It is said that both sides basically agreed to call the new party "New Democratic Coalition Party" ("New Democratic Party" for short)—a name highly popular among the people—in the sense of wearing the mantle of the opposition camp.

A party source said: "There were many complaints over the last relatively minor reshuffle of party executive posts. When in the future the distribution of district chairmanships or things like that becomes an issue in connection with the planned party merger, I expect that we will have to face even greater problems." Suggesting that carrying out the U.S. visit nevertheless would be a difficult thing to do," he added: "Early May is the time to launch an all-out campaign for the local elections and, therefore, those who are expected to accompany Mr Kim, including members of the National Assembly, will likely be reluctant to go along with it."

The same source, however, stopped short of denying the possibility of Kim Tae-chung's U.S. visit. "The U.S visit will still be possible if things move on smoothly with the pending domestic political issues."

Another PPD source predicts that in case Kim Tae-chung visits the United States, his itinerary will be affected by Kim Yong-sam's itinerary to some extent. He means to say that if Kim Yong-sam visits Washington and meets President Bush in May, it will make it difficult for Kim

Tae-chung to arrange his meeting with Bush and, as a result, the latter's itinerary may possibly be reduced to include only the honorary degree ceremonies and the speech at the University of Missouri.

Needless to say, the diplomatic race between Kim Yong-sam, Pak Chol-on and Kim Tae-chung, which intensified with the Sixth Republic's launching of Nordpolitik as its key program, is nothing new.

In his speech to the National Assembly extraordinary session on 29 January, Kim Yong-sam, as DLP representative, stated that he "will use the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) general meeting scheduled for April as an opportunity to promote North-South dialogue," alluding to the possibility of his attending the IPU session. "In the past, I worked for improvements in environments for national reunification through nonpartisan diplomacy." He will carry on the same efforts in the future, he declared.

In his National Assembly speech as PPD representative, Kim Tae-chung—while avoiding directly or specifically referring to if he plans to visit North Korea—presented his view of how North Korea policy should be. In the speech that drew attention, he said: "President Kim Il-song is a person who can make a decision for reunification even if he has to make considerable concessions in the process. Therefore, the reunification issue ought to be resolved while he is alive."

Domestic Political Developments a Variable Factor

Pak Chol-on, mounting his diplomatic activities with the Soviets separately from Kim Yong-sam all the way through immediately before the ROK-USSR rapprochement, has also been striving for better relations with North Korea. To that end, he, for instance, met with North Korean Vice President Yi Chong-ok in the midst of the Asian Games in Beijing. Especially, the Pak camp—with the perception that an enhancement of his image as a politician for the masses depends on a breakthrough in the stalemated North-South relations—is reportedly making an all-out effort in that direction.

It is a time-honored political practice in our country that a presidential candidate visits the United States immediately prior to his official nomination and meets with U.S. leaders in various fields to promote mutual understanding. Former President Chon Tu-hwan and President No Tae-u are among those who followed this practice. Also, for the reason that a political leader who is active with North Korea policy and who makes "visible gains" with it has an edge in the next presidential election, the North Korea policy steps being taken by the three persons—Kim Yong-sam, Pak Chol-on and Kim Tae-chung—have become the center of public attention.

Industries Federation Cautions Against Railway

SK1505021991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 15 May 91 p 6

[Text] The planned construction of a high-speed railway system and part of a west coastal expressway connecting Inchon and Mokpo should be shelved because of their low economic viability in comparison with the huge investment required, the Federation of Korean Industries [FKI] said.

The call came in a meeting of its leaders Monday, including FKI Chairman Yu Chang-sun, Chong Se-yong, chairman of Hyundai Group, and Choe Chong-hyon, chairman of Sunkyong Group.

The business association also called for an increase of spending on military-civilian technology projects to a level equivalent to 3 percent of outlays for national defense from the current 2 percent.

Pointing out that the excessive issuance of monetary-stabilization bonds is squeezing the fund situation in the private sector and pushing up the market interest rates, the FKI called for an overall review of the treasury bonds issuance policy.

It also asked the government to prevent an excessive fiscal surplus which is estimated to reach 2 trillion won this year.

Burma

Students, Teachers Warned of 'Bad Influence'

BK1305111791 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Major General Tun Kyi, chairman of Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council and commander of the Central Military Command, gave words of advice to the medical students at a meeting held at the Mandalay Institute of Medicine at 0900 on 10 May. Also present on the occasion were Colonel Aung Khin, deputy commander of the Central Military Command; Col. Soe Myint, commander of No. 1 Tactical Operations; Lieutenant Colonel Maung Paw, secretary of the Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council; Lt. Col. Lun Thi, chairman of No. 1 Township Zone Law and Order Restoration Council; chairmen of township law and order restoration councils of four Mandalay townships; Dr. U Zaw Win, rector of the Mandalay Institute of Medicine; Dr. U Tun Aung Kyaw, medical superintendent of the Mandalay General Hospital; and professors, heads of departments, lecturers, assistant lecturers, faculty members, and over 700 students of that institute of medicine.

Addressing the meeting, Maj. Gen. Tun Kyi said he had come to that meeting in the role of a parent to give advice to the students who are his children's age. He said the institutes of higher learning are about to reopen in accordance with the wishes of the parents and the students who want to pursue their studies as well as because it is something the country needs. He said: To reopen the schools, the government had been making the best possible arrangements and, to the extent possible, meeting all the needs of colleges and the universities throughout the nation. In Mandalay also, everything possible is being done to facilitate the classroom and hostel requirements of the Arts and Science University. Since everyhing needed is also being done for the Institute of Medicine, it is my belief that everything will go smoothly. With good intentions in mind, I have personally been cooperating with the departments concerned and doing more than what is actually needed. For instance, while the schools are being renovated, I visited the worksites almost daily so that the work being done would be expedited. I met with the responsible officials many times to facilitate the food, lodging, and learning needs.

Today, development work is being done systematically and with good will in villages and in the underdeveloped areas where the national races reside. Schools were closed down following the 1988 incident. Today, the state has reopened the schools for the students at the request of the parents. Those who have a correct outlook are ardently for the reopening of the schools and for resuming studies. Unscrupulous destructive elements will never see any good in whatever we do. However, good people will think well of us. It will only be the students who suffer if bad influence enters and the schools have to be closed down again.

All efforts had to be made to reopen the schools, and therefore, I do not want an incident that would prompt the closure of schools. We cannot permit a situation where unrest begins at schools at the instigation of some politicians. Teachers, parents, and all other responsible personnel should take charge of the situation so that no bad influence comes in to cause instigation. I call on you to control your own school.

The main duty of the students is to pursue their studies. Despite the many difficulties, parents have been sending their children to school so that they may become educated. I believe that the students who will attend the schools actually do want to study peacefully.

I have the responsibility of doing good to and working for the progress of the nation. It is apparent for all to see that whatever possible work is being done by us. There can be no unruly situation in the country as before. Maj. Gen. Tun Kyi said: We will do what is necessary to ensure peaceful study at schools.

Next, the commander was accompanied by the rector and those in charge of the hostels on his inspection tour of the rooms. He left the medical institute at 1030.

Officials Witness Opium Destruction Activities

BK0705134391 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 6 May 91

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and chairman of the Work Committee for Development of Border Regions and National Races [WCDBRNR], left Meiktila by military plane on the afternoon of 4 May and arrived in Heho at 1410. He was accompanied on the trip by Rear Admiral Than Nyunt, Naval chief of staff; Maj. Gen. Thein Win, Air Force chief of staff; Brigadier General Thaung Myint, director of Army Engineers; U San Thein, director general of the People's Police Force; responsible officials from the Office of the SLORC Chairman and Government Office; U Soe Nyunt, member of the SLORC's Information Committee and managing director of the News and Periodicals Enterprise; and directors general and managing directors of departments and enterprises concerned.

Later, Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt and his party, in the company of Maj. Gen. Maung Aye, commander of the Eastern Military Command, proceeded to Keng Tung. [passage omitted]

On 5 May, a military plane carrying U Ohn Gyaw, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Political Department; Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar [Burma]; the Chinese military attache; Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai ambassador to Burma; the Thai military attache; the Malaysian military attache; responsible officials of the Office of the WCDBRNR; directors general, managing directors, and responsible officials of departments and enterprises concerned; responsible officials of the UN Drug Abuse Control [UNDAC] and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency; journalists from KYODO, AFP, TASS, Xinhua, and AP; and a television crew from Bangkok Bureau of the NHK Television and Broadcasting

Corporation flew in to Keng Tung from Yangon [Rangoon] to attend a ceremony marking anti-drug activities in Mong La region. [passage omitted]

First, U Sai lin, leader of the Mong La local community on behalf of the Shans, Akhas, and Lwe races of the East Keng Tung region cordially welcomed Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC and departmental officials; and members of UNDAC in attending the ceremony. [passage omitted]

He explained that there are some background causes to the flourishing drug trade in our eastern Keng Tung region. The local people who are poor and illiterate depended on poppy cultivation as a major source of income and livelihood. The opium trade remained the most lucrative job and that was why poppy was cultivated on 7,522 acres. Geographically, our region is located in a strategic area with drug traffickers using clandestine trails leading to and from Thailand, China, and Laos. There are very few acres where rice can be grown, and the people rely mostly on primitive methods of cultivation.

During the period under the control of the BCP [Burma Communist Party], drug trafficking in the region was permitted. In those days the main objective was to get taxes. But now that we know narcotic drugs are not beneficial to the people of Myanmar and the world we have embarked upon these anti-narcotic drug activities. The refinery about to be destroyed annually produces between 200 and 300 kilograms of semi-refined opium. Annual taxes in the form of heroin levied from drug traffickers who pass through our territory amounted to 130 kilograms. As the first step, 45 acres of opium plantations were destroyed in Mong Hpayak region on 22 March 1991 under the auspices of Colonel Ket Sein, commander of the 77th Light Infantry Division. Total eradication of poppy cultivation in the region is planned over the next six years. [passage omitted]

Next, Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Thein from the Defense Ministry explained anti-narcotic drug activities, destruction of poppy cultivations and the activities of the Government of the Union of Myanmar on development of border regions and national races including the eastern Shan States. [passage omitted]

At the ceremony 60 kilograms of heroin, 30 kilograms of morphine, 50 kilograms of cooked opium, one ton of 20-percent morphine-based opium, 72 grams of lysol, two tons of ammonium chloride, five tons of calcium carbonate, two gallons of sulphuric acid, one steamer, seven car jacks, 22 basins, two dryers, 15 drums, two water filters, one air pump, one hydraulic press, one funnel, and seven huts and barracks were destroyed, with the total value estimated at US$154 million. [passage omitted]

Minister Returns After UN Meeting in Harare

BK1305150291 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] A Myanmar [Burmese] delegation headed by Lieutenant General Aung Ye Kyaw, minister of construction and cooperatives, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air at 1445 today after attending the 13th conference of the UN Human Settlements Commission in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 29 April to 8 May.

The delegation led by Minister Lt. Gen. Aung Ye Kyaw was welcomed back at Yangon airport by Lt. Gen. Sein Aung, minister of industry; Major General Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command; Colonel Pe Thein, minister of health and education and commander in chief of the University Corps; responsible officials of the Cabinet Office, Construction Ministry, and Cooperatives Ministry.

Myanmar Airways To Begin Hong Kong Flights

BK1705082191 Rangoon Myanmar Athan Radio in Burmese 1330 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Myanmar [Burma] Airways, under the Ministry of Transport and Communications will begin the Yangon [Rangoon]-Hong Kong-Yangon commercial flight beginning 31 May 1991.

The F-28 jet aircraft will be used to fly direct to and from Hong Kong. It will leave Yangon at 0630 and arrive in Hong Kong at 1120 local standard time. The plane will leave Hong Kong at 1230 local standard time and arrive in Yangon at 1420.

Details are available at the external ticketing counter of Myanmar Airways.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

CSFR Premier, Trade Minister Begin Visit

BK1705052091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0336 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Subang, May 17 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Czech and Slovak prime minister, Dr. Marian Calfa, arrived at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport here Friday for a three-day official visit to Malaysia.

He was accompanied by his wife, Jirina Calfova, Trade Minister Josep Baksay, and more than [word indistinct] businessmen.

They were met on arrival by Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and later proceeded to parliament square for an official welcoming ceremony.

Dr. Calfa and his wife are scheduled to have an audience with Yang Di-Pertuan Agong (king) Sultan Azlan Shah and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun [on] Friday, this evening.

He will then call on Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed to discuss, among other things, bilateral and international issues of mutual interest and attend a dinner hosted by Dr. Mahathir.

Five-Country Exercise Held in South China Sea

BK1305130991 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0911 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pulau Tioman, May 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A major naval exercise conducted by countries of the Five Power Defence Arrangement (FPDA) in the South China Sea Monday. [sentence as received]

A Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) spokesman said the Starfish '91 naval exercise was the last of a series of defence related events marking the 20th year of the existence of the FPDA.

About 3,500 personnel from the five member countries—Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, and Britain—took part in the exercise which began on April 29.

The exercise officially ended after an exchange of momentoes between representatives from the five naval forces onboard the RMN supply ship, KD Mahawangsa, off this tourist resort island. Malaysia was the host of this year's Starfish exercise.

Present was the RMN Fleet Operations Commander Yaacob Daud.

A total of 39 aircraft and 34 warships of all types, including two submarines, took part in the maritime air defence exercise. Other land-based aircraft from Singapore and Malaysia were also involved at one time or another during the exercise period.

An air defence exercise, codenamed Adex 91-2, was held on a "back-to-back" basis with the Starfish exercise, making the latest series of manoeuvres the largest in the history of the FPDA.

Besides naval, anti-air defence, and antisubmarine warfare, live firings were also conducted during the exercise in a safe area at sea about 50 km south of this island.

Thai Trawler Crew Arrested for Illegal Fishing

BK1605160891 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Marine police have detained four Thai trawlers and 46 crew members for illegal fishing in the exclusive economic zone off the Sarawak coast last night. Speaking in Kuching, (Husaini Haji Suhud), chief of the state marine police, said the captured trawlers were among six trawlers suspected of illegal fishing between (Tanjung Sirih) and (Tanjung Sibang).

He added that police had found about 160 tons of fish aboard the trawlers, valued at 140,000 ringgit. The trawlers have modern equipment, including radar. The crew members will be handed over to the Fishery Office and be put on trial soon.

Petronas Subsidiary To Supply ROK With LNG

OW1305080591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0659 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 13 KYODO—A Japanese-financed subsidiary of Malaysia's state-run oil company Petronas will supply South Korea with liquefied natural gas (LNG) for the first time under an agreement signed Monday.

The agreement between Malaysia LNG SDN. BHD. and Korea Gas Corp. calls for the sale of 57,000 tons for shipment in September this year, followed by a series of short-term sales in 1992-94, a Petronas statement said.

The two companies also signed a memorandum on supplying two million tons of liquefied natural gas annually for 20 years starting in 1995.

Malaysia LNG currently has 20-year supply contracts with three Japanese firms—Tokyo Electric Power Co., Tokyo Gas Co., and Saibu Gas Co.

Malaysia LNG is 60 percent owned by Petronas, 17.5 percent each by Shell Gas BV and Mitsubishi Corp., and 5 percent by the Malaysian Sarawak State Government.

Singapore

Deputy Premier Says PRC Travel 'May' Ease

BK1505135591 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 15 May 91 p 25

[Text] Xiamen—Immigration requirements for Singaporeans travelling to China may gradually be eased as the ties between the two countries take on an economic rather than an emotional dimension, Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said yesterday.

He did not give any details of the impending changes beyond saying that the Home Affairs Ministry was working on some of the changes.

At present, Singaporeans travelling to China must obtain approval from the Singapore Immigration Department.

Explaining the rationale behind the change at a press conference to round-up his two-week official visit to China, Brig-Gen (Res) [revervist] Lee said that Singapore used to have many rules regarding travel to China because of its difficult relationship with the communist country in the 1950s.

Then, many Chinese-educated Singaporeans saw China under Mao Zedong as an ideal society, he added.

"Now everybody knows it is not so. The Chinese say that was a ghastly mistake, and that 30 years have been wasted," he said, adding that China had started to promote economic development, introduce market incentives and look towards Singapore as an example to move forward.

Because of these changes, he said that relations between the two countries have taken on a new dimension.

"What used to be an emotional relationship with the motherland is now an economic relationship with an economic partner," he said.

Now both countries work for their own interests, and where these interests coincide, and are in parallel, cooperation becomes possible.

"That is a more mature relationship which allows us to live more comfortably in South-East Asia with our neighbours, and one which will allow us, over time, to gradually revise the rules and the limitations which were previously necessary," he said.

Returns From PRC, Hong Kong

BK1705120291 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] The Deputy Prime Minister Brigadier-General Lee Hsien Loong has returned home after a three-day private visit to Hong Kong. This morning he called on the British colony's governor Sir David Wilson.

Earlier, General Lee paid a two-week goodwill visit to China with a 28-member delegation.

Accord Reached on Natuna Islands Gas Supply

BK1405105891 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 14 May 91 p 36

[By Steven Pak]

[Text] Singapore and Indonesia have reached in-principle agreement on the supply of natural gas from the offshore Natuna fields to the republic, a senior Pertamina [Indonesia's State Oil and Gas Corporation] official disclosed yesterday.

Mr. G.J. Atihuta, the Indonesian national oil company's vice president and director of corporate affairs, said the legal aspects of the gas pact were ironed out recently by senior officials from the Public Utilities Board [PUB] and Pertamina.

He said that both sides are keen to finalise the arrangements.

"Discussions involving the deal's technical and commercial terms are expected to begin shortly, maybe by the end of this month," he told reporters yesterday at the two-day "Oil and Money: Asia and the Pacific" conference.

Details to be worked out include the pricing of the gas and construction of the 480-km pipeline from the Natuna fields located in the South China Sea to Singapore via Batam.

"From our side there are good prospects from this deal, while PUB has also expressed a willingness to buy Indonesian gas and that is a positive sign," Mr. Atihuta added.

Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita last July estimated the cost of the pipeline at between U.S. $600 million and U.S. $700 million (between S [Singapore] $1.05 billion and S $1.22 billion).

Mr. Ginanjar said then that the proposed agreement would cover the daily supply of 140 million cubic feet of gas to Singapore and could include provision for subsequent increases.

Meanwhile, natural gas from Malaysia's Peninsular Gas Utilisation network is expected to start flowing across the Straits of Johor to Singapore from next February.

Government Encourages Overseas Investments

BK0905143591 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 May 91 p 1

[By Caroline Chan]

[Excerpt] In one of the largest government forays overseas, Temasek Holdings and the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC) will buy over $824 million worth of shares in New Zealand's second biggest investment company, and its British hotel-owning subsidiary.

The two Singapore Government-linked investment houses will acquire 4.7 per cent in Brierley Investments Limited (BIL), and 30 per cent in BIL's largest investment, Mount Charlotte Investment Plc (MCI), which owns 102 hotels with 14,023 rooms in Britain.

In their joint statement yesterday on the investments, Temasek and GIC also announced that they will raise their collective stake in BIL eventually to 10 per cent.

The deals are in line with the Government's strategy of encouraging Singapore companies to sustain growth by investing internationally.

At last month's official opening of DBS Bank's Hong Kong branch, Finance Minister Dr Richard Hu highlighted this point and announced the Government's interest in investing in real assets in Hong Kong.

In the agreement signed with BIL, Temasek would subscribe to 80 million and GIC to 40 million BIL shares priced at NZ$1.05 each, paying in total NZ$126 million (about S$131 million).

The price is a 3.67 per cent discount on BIL's closing price of NZ$1.09 in trading on the New Zealand stock market last Friday.

Yesterday, BIL shares closed at NZ$1.20.

Under the second part of the agreement, BIL will sell to Temasek and GIC a total of 267.6 million MCI shares - 89.2 million to Temasek and 178.4 million to GIC.

The stake of just under 30 per cent is priced at 227.5 million pounds (about $694 million), or at 85 pence for each MCI share. [passage omitted]

Cambodia

Article on 'Divisions' in Khmer Rouge Leadership

BK1505120691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1104 GMT 15 May 91

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Text] Phum Dong, Cambodia, May 15 (AFP)—When Cambodia's emaciating civil war is finally over, the people will be led back to the fields to dig and toil and turn the land green, said the Khmer Rouge cadre in the jungle-green fatigues—pretty much like in the days of Pol Pot.

But as soon as he finished speaking to reporters and villagers here and walked out of earshot, the village headman—also a Khmer Rouge—shouted: "Don't believe him."

The headman, his voice rising to a shrill pitch, was nearly screaming at the visitors to this northwestern Cambodian settlement run by the Khmer Rouge.

"Pol Pot no longer has anything to do with it," he said.

The former Khmer Rouge leader is blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during his brutal rule from 1975 to 1979, during which his policy of radical Marxist agrarian reform emptied Cambodia's cities and put the entire population to hard labour in the countryside.

The two officials' public airing of differences clearly indicated the divisions within the guerrilla faction that is fighting desperately to oust the Phnom Penh Government installed after Vietnam invaded and ousted Pol Pot.

Deep disagreements have emerged, analysts say, leading some to distinguish between an inner circle of hardliners and an outer circle of softliners.

Relief workers say the more moderate outer circle has been steadily gaining ground in refugee camps controlled by the Khmer Rouge inside Thailand.

"So much for the idea of a monolithic Khmer Rouge," said one foreign relief worker with years of experience on the Thai-Cambodian border.

The hard-line stance of the cadre in fatigues sharply differed with the official line of the Khmer Rouge.

The guerrilla faction has formally renounced Pol Pot's brand of extremist socialism in favour of Western-style democracy and a market economy.

The shadowy, 63-year-old Pol Pot has officially withdrawn from the leadership and has been succeeded—nominally at least—by Khieu Samphan, 62, a French-trained intellectual.

But Cambodia watchers generally agree that Pol Pot secretly remains in overall command of the Khmer Rouge.

Before the fatigue-clad Khmer Rouge official arrived on the scene, the village headman, a company commander in the Khmer Rouge self-defense forces, had extolled the virtues of the official liberal line.

"We don't like Pol Pot. We like Khieu Samphan," said the headman, clad not in military uniform but in jeans and a T-shirt.

The official in fatigues, asked later if he followed the policies of Pol Pot, insisted that the former leader was no longer in charge and that the Khmer Rouge had given up on communism.

"Mr. Pol Pot is a nationalist," the man said firmly, pointedly referring to Pol Pot as "mister" rather than the usual communist title of "comrade."

"He never wanted to have power for himself. He wants independence for the country," said the official, who declined to be identified. "Mr. Pol Pot is not at all bad. He just wanted equality for all."

If the Vietnamese had not invaded to topple the Khmer Rouge from power, Cambodia would not be the poor country it is today, he said.

"The system (under Pol Pot) was not all good, but it was not all bad either," said the cadre.

"When there are no more Vietnamese (in Cambodia) we will take the people to work in the fields," he said. "We will have no more servants or maids, only independence. Those who can work in factories will work in factories. Those who know how to drive will be drivers."

The villagers shuffled uneasily as he talked.

"After all these years ..." A woman was heard to mutter in dismay.

A relief official at the camp said he could not predict a victory for either camp within the Khmer Rouge.

"If it comes to the crunch, it's hard to predict now what will happen," he said.

But a recent report by the London-based human rights organisation Amnesty International suggests that the top Khmer Rouge leadership—or at least some of it—has not changed its ways when it comes to silencing dissent.

According to the report, the Khmer Rouge last year executed 30 party members suspected of leading an internal rebellion for greater personal and economic freedom.

The bloody purge took place, according to Amnesty's report, in an area of northern Cambodia under the command of 65-year-old Ta Mok, one of the Khmer Rouge's most feared leaders.

More on Divisions

BK1705033791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 91 p 5

[By James Pringle in Phum Dong, Cambodia]

[Text] In a future Khmer Rouge-ruled Cambodia, rich who now have houses, cars and servants will again labour in the fields as in the earlier period of rule by Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot.

Meanwhile, poor people who make up 90 percent of the population will be encouraged to get rich, a Khmer Rouge official said here.

"Mr Pol Pot," under whose rule the cities were forcibly evacuated and up to a million Cambodians died, was a great nationalist and but for the Vietnamese invasion of late 1978 Cambodia would be "less poor," the official said.

That wasn't the case at all, another Khmer Rouge official insisted. Pol Pot was not liked by the Cambodian people, and would never return to power. Communism was finished in Cambodia and in future—should the Khmer

Rouge win United Nations-supervised elections—a market economy and a "liberal" political system would prevail.

In a remarkable public disagreement here, two Khmer Rouge cadres—apparently representing the "inner" (hardline) and "outer" (softline) circles, as they are called by foreign relief agency officials on the Thai-Cambodian border, disputed the Khmer Rouge vision of the future.

They did so as a UN military official, Major General Timothy Dibuama of Ghana, adviser to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, was in Cambodia to see how a UN-called ceasefire that began on 1st May is holding—it generally is—and just days after Amnesty International accused the Khmer Rouge of executing 30 officials for favouring greater freedom.

"Don't believe him, Pol Pot will never return to power in Cambodia," the softline official, a captain in Khmer Rouge self defence forces in charge of 1,000 families in this village just inside Khmer Rouge-held Cambodia, told this correspondent and a group of Cambodian civilians.

The civilians had been murmuring "20 years of war in Cambodia is enough, we're all sick of it" during harangues by both men.

"That man has been shot in the head and doesn't know what he is saying," said the captain, who wore jeans and T-shirt with crocodile logo and was smoking a Bentley cigarette. In his wooden-built home nearby was a TV set with roof aerial for watching Thai programmes.

"People will never be forced to evacuate the cities, as in the past. I understand their fears but we will lay down our arms under the UN plan so how could we kill them?"

The captain, who had been explaining Khmer Rouge attitudes to elections, beat a retreat with his aides when the second Khmer Rouge official, dressed in Chinese khaki army fatigues, peaked cap and rubber tyre sandals, arrived. He said he was based "deeper inside Cambodia."

The hardliner, aged 38, would not give his name, saying only "I am one of the people," but spoke forcefully and with obvious authority. He confirmed reports from inside Cambodia that the Khmer Rouge election strategy would be to back poor peasants, or "basic strata."

"They are the ones who make up 90 percent of the population and fight against the puppet regime," he said. "It is not the rich who fight."

Bangkok-based diplomats believe this strategy of backing the poorest sector of society in Cambodia could bring gains for the Khmer Rouge in elections which would follow a ceasefire.

These envoys say it is true most Cambodians are dirt-poor while there is a new elite of prosperous entrepreneurs and officials of the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh regime who have used their official and party positions to go into business. They have created an affluent, villa-owning class, driving Mercedes cars, and having servants and chauffeurs.

The two communist factions, plus two non-communist groups awkwardly allied to the Khmer Rouge, are to meet in Jakarta, Indonesia, early next month, to try to reach agreement on the UN peace plan. Phnom Penh refuses to dismantle its army before elections, saying it fears the Khmer Rouge will try to take power again.

"When there are no more Vietnamese in Cambodia, we will take the rich people to work in the fields," the hardline cadre said. "There will be no more servants or maids. Factory workers will work in factories, and drivers will drive vehicles. Everyone has got to work."

He said Pol Pot would step down from all positions "once the Vietnamese have left the country," and he did not rule out a market economy, saying this would help the poor get rich.

Praising the Khmer Rouge leader, he added: "Mr Pol Pot did not have bad ideas and wanted equality for everyone. There was no poverty and all were equal until the Vietnamese came and tried to grab our land."

The "softliner," who did give his name, but which is withheld here for his own protection, given recent alleged killings of dissident Khmer Rouge who sought greater freedom along the lines of Khmer Rouge statements in favour of a more liberal system, said: "People can vote for who they like, even the puppet regime, though I don't think many will.

"I will vote for (Khmer Rouge figurehead leader) Khieu Samphan. But we don't like Pol Pot. The regime is all changed now. Before we had communism but now we are moving towards democracy."

Bangkok-based diplomats say they believe there are hard and soft lines in the Khmer Rouge. The soft-line area includes camps along the Cambodian border where foreign relief agencies work. "There are at least two tendencies in the Khmer Rouge," said one relief official. "In future, the hardliners may have difficulty re-asserting their control."

But envoys believe the radical movement is still under the overall control of Pol Pot, and that fundamentally his ideas have not changed.

The killings reported by Amnesty allegedly occurred in northern Cambodia in a region run by Ta Mok, known as the most ruthless of Khmer Rouge leaders.

VONADK Reiterates Adherence to UN Documents

BK1705031391 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 16 May 91

[Station commentary: "Thwarting the Maneuvers of the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors and Their Puppets and Lackeys To Destroy the Documents of the Five Permanent Members"]

[Text] The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys have again and again repeated that they refuse the disarming and dissolution of the puppet troops using the pretext that they need to maintain these troops to

oppose the Khmer Rouge. This is an outdated pretext. The world clearly knows the hideous face of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys over the past 12 years and about their deceptive tricks and the expansionist and aggressive Indochinese federation strategy.

The world clearly realizes that the Vietnamese enemy aggressors raise this pretext, like other pretexts and issues raised successively in the past, only to oppose and destroy the documents of the five permanent members. The Vietnamese enemy is afraid of the five permanent members' documents and the UN peacekeeping force's control of the Vietnamese aggressor troop pullout from Cambodia. Therefore, Vietnam keeps raising this or that issue.

The tripartite Cambodian National Resistance forces need to solve the Cambodian problem to ensure Cambodia's genuine independence and peace with a stable and peaceful political atmosphere so that the Cambodian people can exercise their right to self-determination. For this reason, the tripartite Cambodian National Resistance forces have supported the five permanent members' documents and the presence of a sufficiently large UN peacekeeping force with a clear mandate from the UN Security Council [UNSC] in order to control the withdrawal of all Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia and the disarming and dissolution of all Cambodian troops.

The Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys do not want Cambodia to have genuine peace; they do not want Cambodia to have independence and the Cambodian people to decide their destiny themselves. They need to continue hiding Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia. This is why:

1. They oppose the presence of a sufficiently large UN peacekeeping force with a clear mandate from the UNSC. They only need a handful of UN personnel to legitimize Vietnam's continued stay in Cambodia.

2. They oppose the disarming and dissolution of the puppet army. They want to maintain the puppet regime and the puppet army in order to continue hiding Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia.

The Cambodian people and Cambodian National Resistance forces certainly will not allow the Vietnamese enemy and its puppets and lackeys to use tricky methods to maintain Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia. We firmly stand by the documents. Everyone should implement the documents fully and genuinely. We only want the documents and nothing else on top of this. We also certainly will not allow the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and their puppets and lackeys to alter these documents so that Vietnam continues to maintain its aggressor forces in Cambodia because this is a vital issue concerning the survival of the entire Cambodian nation, race, and people.

The five permanent members' documents represent the only way to solve and end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia.

Hor Namhong Receives UN Military Team 16 May

BK1705065391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0440 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 17 May (SPK)—Hor Namhong, foreign minister, received on Thursday [16 May] in Phnom Penh the UN military team, led by Ghanaian General Timothy Dibuama, which arrived on 14 May to discuss with Cambodian authorities the implementation of the cease-fire in the country.

The Cambodian chief diplomat reminded the UN military team that years ago Phnom Penh proposed a voluntary cease-fire and the end of military aid to warring Cambodian parties, saying this would be evidence of the goodwill and trust necessary for reaching a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

"This is why we unreservedly support the appeal by the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN secretary general for a voluntary cease-fire," said the minister who added:

"If all parties really want peace and accept with sincerity the appeal by the cochairmen and the UN secretary general, I do not see any reason for hesitating on measures to observe the cease-fire, whatever they are.

"Also, we appreciate the visit by the mission, or any others envisaged by the cochairmen and the UN secretary general in the future in order to consolidate the cease-fire.

"I hope that through its on-the-spot visit, the mission has witnessed the flagrant violations of the cease-fire by the other side.

"We think that there should be no hesitation in taking measures toward peace. We also reiterate that the extension of the cease-fire until a comprehensive political agreement is reached and that another step, also indispensable and inseparable from the cease-fire, be considered: the end of the supply of war materiel to warring parties."

"If these measures toward peace are not taken, Hor Namhong thought, we have reason to believe that this short lull in fighting will be used by the other side to reorganize and resupply its troops, which were dealt serious setbacks in the last dry season despite the large-scale offensives and war materiel used (tanks, heavy artillery, and so on), in order to launch new and more murderous offensives."

He said to the mission that the voluntary acceptance of the cease-fire and non-reception of further military aid is a test of mutual sincerity and goodwill in order to achieve a political solution. In the same way, the non-supply of arms and ammunition to warring parties is evidence of the mutual sincerity and goodwill on the part of involved countries to contribute to peace in Cambodia, stressed Minister Hor Namhong who added:

"We are ready to accept a goodwill mission of the UN secretary general and the PICC cochairmen in order to consolidate the cease-fire. We hope that this mission will be followed by others going in the same direction. And if all parties really want peace and sincerely accept the appeal by the PICC cochairmen and the UN secretary general,

there is no reason for the Cambodian parties to continue receiving foreign military aid."

In his response, Timothy Dibuama sincerely thanked the State of Cambodia's Government for the warm welcome accorded him during his mission in Cambodia. He pledged, upon his return, to inform the United Nations on the real situation in Cambodia.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding.

UN Team Returns After Inspecting Cease-Fire

BK1705042691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0420 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Bangkok, May 17 (AFP)—A United Nations military mission reviewing the cease-fire in Cambodia returned here Friday from Phnom Penh, airport officials said.

The four-man team, led by Major-General Timothy Dibuama of Ghana, had been in the Cambodian capital since Tuesday for meetings with top officials of the government installed 12 years ago by invading Vietnamese forces. It also made visits to areas outside Phnom Penh.

Before travelling to Phnom Penh, the mission had separate talks in Thailand on border areas of Cambodia with representatives of the three resistance factions fighting in Phnom Penh.

Sources in Phnom Penh said the mission was expected to have further meetings with representatives of the resistance parties, and in particular to see for the first time senior officials of the dominant marxist Khmer Rouge on Friday or Saturday.

Thai officials are also reportedly interested in meeting the team.

Maj. Gen. Dibuama met Defence Minister Tie Banh, his deputy Ke Kimyan, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong and Premier Hun Sen during the visit.

On Wednesday they flew west to the Province of Battambang to meet the governor and the regional commander and visit a frontline district for talks with military and civilian officials.

The UN mission's job was not to monitor the May 1 ceasefire but to review it with the interested parties and urge them to respect it at least until they next meet in their joint Supreme National Council in Jakarta early next month for peace talks.

UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Indonesia and France—sponsors of the ceasefire—decided to send the team after Phnom Penh and the three resistance factions traded charges of truce violations as soon as it began on May 1.

Fighting appears to have died down but observers say incidents are inevitable.

U.K. Envoys Urge Acceptance of Peace Plan

BK1705102091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1013 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 17 (AFP)—Two British diplomats arrived here Friday to expand political contacts with the government and check aid projects, an envoy said.

Bangkok-based First Secretary Andrew George flew in from Thailand while Paul Reddicliffe, of the Foreign Office Research and Analysis Department in London, came overland from Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City, Mr. George said.

The British Government does not recognise the Phnom Penh administration or the three party resistance alliance.

But in December, the Foreign Office opened contacts with representatives of the Phnom Penh government who were meeting resistance parties in Paris to resolve differences about a peace settlement.

Mr. George said his visit was in part aimed at following up this political contact and he would discuss the peace process with senior officials, including Foreign Minister Hor Namhong Monday.

He met Deputy Foreign Minister Phy Thach on Friday.

Britain backs the peace blueprint it helped draft with other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council—China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—as the best solution for Cambodia.

Mr. George would reiterate this position and urge Phnom Penh to go along with the plan, parts of which it still objects to.

It provides for an enhanced U.N. Role ahead of elections but Phnom Penh rejects proposals to dismantle its army and administration and says it leaves the room open for a return to power by the Khmer Rouge, who ruled by terror from 1975 to 1979.

The two British diplomats were also here to "look at humanitarian assistance projects," Mr. George said.

They planned to visit projects at Kompong Cham in the east and Kompong Speu southwest of here.

London channels humanitarian assistance to this country through U.N. agencies and British non-governmental organisations such as Oxfam, Christian Outreach and Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO).

This aid was worth 2.36 million pounds (4.13 million dollars) between 1988 and March this year, according to official British figures.

Britain began to amend its policy on humanitarian assistance to Phnom Penh held areas under public pressure in late 1989, after the Vietnamese troop withdrawal and fears of a return by the Khmer Rouge, which Hanoi ousted in 1979.

Mr. George and a British Government aid official came here in December 1989 as the first British Government officials to visit Phnom Penh since 1975. He was also here in September.

Phnom Penh Gives U.N. Truce Violation List

BK1705111691 Hong Kong AFP in English
1113 GMT 17 May 91

[Excerpts] Phnom Penh, May 16 (AFP)—Phnom Penh authorities handed to U.N. officials earlier this week a list citing more than 20 alleged violations of a cease-fire.

The document, seen here Friday, said the government would counterattack if the violations—mainly mortar, rocket and artillery fire—continued.

The list said guerrillas of the three resistance factions had violated the truce along the border with Thailand from May 1 to May 10.

The unprecedented cease-fire was called by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Indonesia and France, who co-chair a conference aimed at finding a solution to the 12-year-old civil war.

The cease-fire came into effect May 1 but both sides soon cried foul prompting the U.N. to send a military mission to review the truce from both sides.

Phnom Penh handed its list to team leader Major General Timothy Dibuama Thursday, according to sources.

"The tripartite coalition has taken advantage of the cease-fire to carry out their strategies and reorganise their forces after having suffered heavy defeats during the dry season," which ends in the next few weeks, the document said.

It said the Khmer Rouge, resistance military powerhouse and former rulers of Cambodia, had "divided their forces into small units so as to round up our armed forces, to wage guerrilla war supported by artillery shells."

It charged that the resistance, particularly the Khmer Rouge, continued to move arms into the country.

The Vietnamese ousted the Khmer Rouge in January 1979 and installed the current government. They withdrew in 1989, though the resistance say tens of thousands of combat troops remain in the country. [passage omitted]

The four-man U.N. team left here for Thailand Friday after meeting with senior military and civilian officials and visiting the flashpoint of Treng, close to the Thai border in Battambang Province.

They were here not to monitor the May 1 cease-fire but to review it with Phnom Penh leaders and urge them to respect it at least until the warring sides meet early June in Jakarta for peace talks.

The fighting appears to have subsided under the truce but observers say incidents were inevitable.

Minister Warns Aid Workers About Politics

BK1605132691 Hong Kong AFP in English
1233 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 15 (AFP)—The Cambodian Government has told overseas aid workers here to steer clear of politics during a meeting with representatives of non-governmental organisations [NGOS].

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong confirmed in a recent interview that he had passed on this message during the meeting last week.

"We thank them sincerely for humanitarian assistance and understand their ideals to have peace but (it is) better that they not get involved in political activities," he said.

Mr. Hor Namhong's warning related to a specific incident but he would not elaborate, saying only that it involved plans for a demonstration.

But an aid worker who attended the meeting said the government was "making a mountain out of a mole hill."

The incident to which the foreign minister referred was an informal gathering of Khmers and some foreign aid workers at which people were encouraged to express their support for the ceasefire, which had just been announced, and their hopes for peace.

Various ideas for showing Khmer people's desire for peace were discussed including a rally-cum-religious festival here.

But throughout the meeting concern was expressed that government approval would have to be sought and it was decided to delay any plans until the political climate was more favourable.

The government had been alarmed to hear that one idea discussed had been a march by a group of people from Phnom Penh towards the border who would be met halfway by groups walking from Thailand.

The relief worker confirmed that this was one idea that had been considered and rejected.

A Westerner who was here at the time of the final Vietnamese troop withdrawal in September 1989 said some NGOS [nongovernmental organization] flaunted their political leanings then without censure from the government.

"A leftie group of NGOS at the Monorom (hotel) had a committee calling on the derecognition of the Khmer Rouge at the United Nations and for government's to consider recognising this government as a way to end the conflict," he said.

Opposition Troops' Truce Violations Reported

BK1705131491 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1118 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 17—The Khmer coalition factions have repeatedly violated the voluntary cease-fire to which they committed themselves to observe by firing 33 artillery shells on government positions in the provinces of Battambang, Kompong Thom and Kompong Cham recently.

In Battambang Province, the opposition troops on May 11 fired 16 shells of artillery gun on an area 22 km southwest of Moung Russei District.

On May 12, they fired two recoilless gun shells on an area three kilometers northeast of Chamka Leu District.

Kompong Cham Province. They also took away six bovines and looted property of the peasants in Pongro Village four kilometers northeast of the same district.

On May 14, the coalition troops slammed 15 shells of recoilless gun into an area 10 km east of Stoung District, Kompong Thom Province.

Heng Samrin Addresses Army Session Closing

BK1705140091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] A ceremony was held at the 26 August Hotel in the afternoon of 16 May to close the meeting on the 1990-91 dry season politico-military work and future targets for the rainy season under the chairmanship of Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State.

Also present were Comrade Chea Sim, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National council; Comrade General Bou Thang, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Sar Kheng, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, chief of the party Central Committee Cabinet, and chairman of the party Central Committee Organization Commission; Comrade Gen. Tie Banh, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and minister of national defense; Comrade Gen. Sin Song, alternate Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and minister of the interior; Comrade Lieutenant Gen. Pol Sareoun, alternate Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee, deputy defense minister, and chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces; and several comrades who are provincial party committees, heads and deputy heads of military regions, division commanders and deputy commanders of military regions, leaders of central ministries and offices, and outstanding cadres and combatants.

For four days, the meeting participants listened with a high sense of responsibility to the resolution on work supervision and leadership during the dry season and targets for the rainy season and heard reports summing up the politico-military work and logistics, reports on battle experiences, views and clarifications on a number of important issues, and the very significant speech of Comrade Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers, who pointed out a number of good lessons for future implementation.

In his closing speech, Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin praised the high sense of responsibility displayed by all meeting participants in assessing the situation and drawing good experiences in leadership and command and in making good use of the combined forces to launch counterattacks during the just-ended dry season. He also admired the heroism of the combatants who overcame all obstacles, endured all sacrifices, and created noble achievements in defending the national gains, ensuring security for the population, and preventing the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime.

Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin stressed that the victories won during the past dry season were of great significance to the current situation and brought the fame of the armed forces to new heights, helping to further the people's confidence in their own forces and more clearly demonstrating to the public worried about the genocidal Pol Pot regime's return that only the forces of the State of Cambodia are in a position to prevent the recurrence of that evil regime.

Comrade General Secretary Heng Samrin urged all meeting participants to do their best to firmly adhere to the principled view in order to correctly expand their ideological grasp and take timely and effective measures to frustrate all the perfidious maneuvers of the enemy. At the same time, they must carry on the widespread movement of the entire party, army, and people to further consolidate [words indistinct].

Wood Sales Made To Raise Fertiliser Money

BK0905143791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0757 GMT 9 May 91

[By Leo Dobbs]

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 9 (AFP)—Faced with serious rice shortages, the Cambodian Government will sell hardwoods to raise money for fertilisers it no longer gets on the cheap from the Soviet Union, an Agriculture Ministry official said Thursday.

The 30,000 cubic metres (1.05 million cubic feet) of tropical timber should fetch slightly more than two million dollars—enough to buy some 10,000 tonnes of fertiliser, said the official, Kongthai Bunthan.

But this will come nowhere near meeting needs in a country where urea and phosphates are essential for boosting the rice crop—the staple food here.

The Soviet Union had long supplied 40,000 tonnes to 50,000 tonnes of fertiliser annually, but Moscow, facing severe economic problems of its own, sent only 7,000 tonnes in 1990 and none at all so far this year, sources said. Future deals will be done at world market prices, and for hard currency—something Phnom Penh can ill afford.

"It will be hard to stabilise self-sufficiency if we have to face a shortage of fertiliser," Mr. Kongthai Bunthan said.

A recent U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) report said that "due to foreign exchange constraints for 1991, only a part of (Cambodia's) estimated fertiliser requirement will be imported, probably not more than 13,000 to 15,000 tonnes."

The report said the government's own estimated needs, in a country where the soil that supports the basic rice culture has a "low inherent fertility rate," were 85,000 tonnes.

The Dutch Government gave Cambodia about 2,300 tonnes of fertiliser late last year, which was used in the September to May dry season.

The Phnom Penh Government, which uses more than 30 per cent of its budget to fight Cambodia's three allied resistance groups, spent one million dollars last year to buy a further 5,000 tonnes of high-quality fertiliser from South Korea, Mr. Kongthai Bunthan said.

In the absence of Soviet supplies, speculators have been ordering fertilisers and selling them to the government, including one order for about 3,000 tonnes.

"Some private companies are trying to do that," a Western agronomist said, adding that Singapore in particular was used as a conduit.

Mr. Kongthai Bunthan said negotiations have already begun, as the fertilisers would be needed in the rainy season months of June, July and August. He did not elaborate, but Vietnam, Japan, Thailand and Singapore are all known to be interested in Cambodia's high-quality redwoods.

The FAO report suggested the fertiliser shortage could be dealt with in other ways, however, especially by changing traditional farming practices and reviewing Cambodia's long-time pattern of fertiliser use.

Mr. Kongthai Bunthan said Cambodia prefers South Korean fertilisers, but agronomists said new fertilisers are now available which would provide more soil enrichment at a lower price.

Fifty thousand tonnes of the newer fertilisers would have the same benefit as 85,000 tonnes of the older type while helping cut other costs, they said.

Agronomists also recommend improving the use of manure, as well as fertiliser subsidies for farmers.

In the meantime, however, the FAO said "it is assumed that a substantial part of the (Cambodian) fertiliser supply required in the short to medium term will have to come from multilateral organisations."

SPK on Development of Poipet Border Market

BK1605130091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0432 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 16—The "Poipet" northwestern border trading post in Banteay Meanchey Province, some 360 km from Phnom Penh, is under construction and due to be opened on June 15 to restore the official cross-border trade between Cambodia and Thailand.

Cambodia and Thailand agreed in late April this year to open official cross-border trade after 16 years of shady black-marketeering since 1975 when the dictatorial Khmer Rouge took power in Phnom Penh.

The agreement was reached in the landmark trade talks held in the Cambodian border town of Poipet between Cambodian Trade Minister Nhim Vanda, who is also a deputy defense minister, and Pramuan Rotchanaseri, governor of Thailand's eastern border province of Prachin Buri.

Set up about 48 km from the district town of Sereisaophoan to the to the west, the Poipet trading post is linked by a bridge across the "O Chreou" river to another trading post of Thailand in Khlong Luk, Aranyaprathet District.

The market, which is built on an area 171 metres long and 147 metres wide, would consist of 1,050 booths; and 744 shops would be built around the market place.

An official of Cambodia's Sereisaophoan District said the opening of official cross-border trade is aimed at maintaining social order in the border locality, regulating trade and getting revenue for the state. Merchandises from Thailand and Phnom Penh are put on sale in front of the border railway station in Poipet pending the official opening of the cross-border trade.

Philippines

Manglapus Calls For Independent Asian Security

OW1605121191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1143 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Manila, May 16 KYODO—Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus on Thursday called on Southeast Asian nations to forge a security arrangement more independent from the United States, which has emerged as "the undisputed world power" after victory in the Persian Gulf.

Manglapus also urged the United Nations to provide a balance to the U.S. that will ensure that it would not abuse the power it now enjoys.

He called for a Southeast Asian regional security dialogue that is solidly based in the region and not "born in the drawing rooms of the (U.S.) State Department and the Pentagon."

Manglapus made the call during a speech before the 33rd anniversary ceremony of the Philippines-U.S. Mutual Defense Board (MDB), a body created in 1958 to jointly implement defense arrangements between the two countries.

Although he praised the U.S.'s restraint in not marching into Baghdad at the height of the Gulf war when it could have seized the Iraqi capital, Manglapus urged the UN to serve as the watchdog of the people of the world.

In his speech, Manglapus also noted that the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) formed during the early 1960's faded away because "the concept may have been valid but it was not born in the region."

He expressed hopes that the Southeast Asian security dialogue that will be held in Manila next month "will correct that mistake and will find a more solid base for cooperation than that which was provided in the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization."

Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei,

Indonesia, and Thailand—and Japan, the U.S., and other ASEAN dialogue partners are expected to attend the informal dialogue.

Manglapus' statements came in the wake of the stalled negotiations between Washington and Manila on a treaty that will cover the continued stay of U.S. military bases in the country after the current lease on them expires in September.

The talks have been snagged by the issue of how long the U.S. could continue to stay in the Philippines and for how much money.

The philippines has proposed a seven-year treaty with annual compensation of 825 million dollars, while the United States has proposed a 10 year treaty with a yearly compensation of 360 million dollars.

U.S. Commander in Chief for the Pacific Command Adm. Charles Larson told reporters in a short interview before the MBD ceremony that "I am hopeful but I can't say I'm optimistic (about a treaty)."

Aquino Warns Against Use of Private Armies

HK1505095191 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 15 May 91 p 8

[By Fred Lobo]

[Text] President Aquino warned yesterday against the use of "private armies" by politicians in the forthcoming 1992 elections.

The President said that such groups should be reported to and be dealt with by police and military authorities.

Mrs Aquino issued the warning in the wake of fears expressed by Commission on Elections (Comelec) Acting Chairman Haydee Yorac and other sectors on the possible resurgence of private armies this coming elections.

"If there are any perceived private armies, these should be reported to the political and the military authorities so that they may be properly dealt with," the President said.

Mrs Aquino earlier vowed to hold clean, honest and free elections in 1992.

As stake in the forthcoming elections are the posts of the president and the vice president, senators, congressmen and local officials.

A move for the holding of separate national and local elections is, however, shaping up and will likely push through.

The use of private armies in the commission of terrorism and election frauds has been a common practice of socalled dirty politicians who want to win elections at all costs.

Yorac urged the government the other day to adopt a comprehensive policy against private armies so that they could not be used by politicians in 1992.

Senator Says Aquino Can Run as Party Candidate

HK1705072791 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 17 May 91 pp 1, 2

[By reporter Fidel F. Asor Jr]

[Text] President Aquino could run under the Lakas ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] if she decides to do so in next year's presidential elections even though she is not a member of the party now, Senator Neptali Gonzales, LDP president, said yesterday.

Interviewed after the weekly Congress Forum at the Seafood Market in Cubao, Quezon City where he appeared as guest, Gonzales said that the President would be welcome to run under the party.

"She'll be welcome as we have welcomed her already on past occasions," Gonzales said, referring to the snap presidential election in 1986 when a coalition of anti-Marcos political parties decided to draft a party-less Aquino to run against then President Marcos.

He added: "Of course, we would not know what would be the stand of the known or declared LDP aspirants in the event that President Aquino reconsiders her decision not to run, but we will cross that bridge when we reach it."

The LDP president was referring to House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr and Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos, the only two declared aspirants for the LDP's nomination as standard bearer in next year's presidential elections.

Gonzale's position contradicted that of some LDP members, who said the President could not run under the LDP if she decides to seek reelection since she is not even a member of the party.

This was the reason why some LDP members led by Representative Ronaldo Zamora of Mandaluyong had proposed to limit the field just to the declared aspirants to preempt the entry at the last minute of such non-LDP members as Mrs Aquino.

But Gonzales stressed yesterday that the LDP was still open to other aspirants, dousing cold water on attempts to limit the field just to Mitra and Ramos.

He said that anybody who wanted to seek the party nomination "must submit himself to the party rules on nomination as provided for in our Constitution."

"We will not do that (block the entry of other aspirants). Anybody is free to enter the convention," he added.

Mrs Aquino had repeatedly stated that she would not seek reelection, saying she was satisfied with her role as a "transition" President.

But some people close to the President, among them Representative Jose "Peping" Cojuangco, her younger brother, and Pampanga Governor Bren Guiao, had indicated that she might run in next year's presidential election should the situation demand.

Gonzales also announced that the party would start holding its regional meetings aimed at strengthening its ranks.

He said that for Region 9, the meeting was scheduled on May 26 in Tacloban City and Region 4, on June 1 in Batangas City.

Brother: Aquino May Still Run

HK1605051491 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 16 May 91 pp 1, 16

[Text] President Aquino's decision not to run for office in 1992 is not absolute, her brother Rep. Jose Cojuangco said yesterday.

"It is not a matter of 'absolutely not.' Like, it's summer and normally it doesn't rain in summer, but there are occasions in summer when it rains," he said.

Recalling the snap elections of 1986, he said. "prior to the snap elections, she was also not interested. She was very adamant she was not seeking the position of president. But things turned out the other way. She was forced into it."

President Aquino recently said she did not find any reason "at the moment" that would compel her to run in 1992. She has repeatedly denied she is going to run.

Congressman Cojuangco said he does not know what "big event" would make the president change her mind. He had earlier said the need to unify the administration party may be one reason.

He noted that many members of the ruling Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino (LDP) [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] would like her to serve another term to continue the programs started under her administration.

Asked whether the choice of the LDP standard bearer has narrowed down to Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr., Cojuangco said, "It's not a matter of choice between personalities. I think it is a matter of whether the party members prefer a continuity of what's going on at this stage of our growth."

In a related development, Cojuangco said the members of Congress will meet with local officials to resolve differences on the conduct of the 1992 elections.

May national elections and November local elections are preferred by Congress but local officials want simultaneous elections to avoid replacements by officers-in-charge.

He noted that the "leading scenario", is a May-November schedule of elections in 1992.

Bank Reserves Shortfall Increases in March

HK1505111291 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 15 May 91 p 8

[By researcher Grace C. Sison]

[Text] The higher reserve requirement imposed by the Central Bank [CB] against short- and long-term deposits of commercial banks proved too much for the banking system as its available reserves of the end of the first quarter continued to lag behind the requirement set by the Monetary Board, the CB's highest policy-making body.

The latest CB statistics showed that the combined reserve position of the commercial and rural banks incurred a reserve deficit of P3,983.9 million [pesos] as of end-March. This marked a sharp 76.64 percent increase from the previous month's negative reserve of P2,255.4 million and a huge 106.74 percent jump from the P1,927-million deficit posted in the same period last year.

The negative reserve position registered by the commercial banking system in the last two months could be mainly attributed to the final adjustment in the required reserves made last December. The Monetary Board adjusted the reserve requirement three times last year, with the December change reaching 25 percent.

Banking sources said the current reserve requirement was even higher than the 24 percent imposed in 1984 and 1985 when the country was experiencing a serious financial crisis.

Because of the latest adjustment, the banking system incurred a huge P10.6-billion reserve deficit in end-December last year. Although the banks managed to post a surplus of P365.6 million last January, this was quickly over shadowed by the huge deficits recorded in February and March.

Because of this, CB Gov. Jose Cuisia, Jr. recently announced a possible reduction in the reserve requirement—an announcement that was welcomed by bankers.

"Any reduction in the reserve requirement will immediately impact on lending rates," one banker said, adding that "it will fill up funds for loans needed by business whether in exports or in labor generation."

One source said lowering the reserve requirement would also trim the intermediation costs of banks, which could eventually reduce lending rates.

CB sources also attributed the ballooning negative reserve position to the continuous expansion of deposit liabilities of the banking system as shown by the public's preference for highly liquid assets—savings and time deposits—which could easily be converted to cash.

Japan Said Open to Reduced Loan Interest Rates

HK1605051891 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 16 May 91 p 3

[By staff member Arleen Chipongian]

[Text] Japan's Export Import Bank (Eximbank) is open to reducing its interest rates on existing loans to the Philippines as part of the maximum concessionality options to be discussed in the fourth round of rescheduling talks under the Paris Club scheduled for June 18.

Kazunori Umeda, chief represetnative of Japan Eximbank in Manila, said last week that Japan would "more easily consider" interest, rather than principal, reduction for the Philippines.

Japan Eximbank charges near-commercial, rather than concessional, rates on loans to the Philippines, with yield ranging from 6-7.5% and a maturity of 10-15 years.

Concessional loans, like those offered by the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund [OECF] of Japan, have yields of as low as 2.5% and a repayment period of 30 years.

The possible slash in Japan Eximbank rates will reflect the fall in interest rates in the international financial community, such as the drop in the London interbank offered rate (Libor) of two percentage points early this month.

Umeda said that if the Philippines pursued principal debt reduction, Japan would "unwillingly stop its loans to the Philippines."

He explained that it would be hard to explain to the Japanese taxpayers why Japan would continue providing new loans to a country that would not pay its debts.

Japan Eximbank and the OECF are the principal funding sources from Japan.

Of the $1.6 billion in maturing obligations to be covered by the Paris Club talks, nearly 80%, or $1.2 billion, is owed to Japan.

In 1990, total commitments of Japan Eximbank to the Philippines amounted to $547.2 million, a slight drop from the $591.6-million level in 1989.

Of the $547.2-million, $436.5 million are in united loans; $82.3 million in overseas investment credits; $21.6 million in import credits; and $13.9 million in export credits.

A special financing facility offered by Japan Eximbank is the overseas investment financing under which loans are provided to Philippine-Japanese joint ventures.

One of the biggest credit lines offered under this program is the $50-million loan to Republic-Asahi Glass Corp.

Meanwhile, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon said the rescheduling agreement entered into by the Philippine goverment with the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) revising the modes and conditions of paying the country's foreign debt conforms with the new Constitution and existing laws.

Drilon made the assurances in response to inquiries by the Department of Finance, which has been tasked under the agreement to ensure the legal binding effect of the agreement under the country's laws.

Under the rescheduling agreement, specifically Article 5.2, the "philippine government is required to furnish U.S. Eximbank evidence satisfying that RP [Republic of the Philippines] has met all requirements for the legally binding assumption of its obligations under the agreement."

Under the agreement, Eximbank agreed "to consolidate and reschedule certain Philippine public and private debts owed to, or guaranteed by, it or insured by the Foreign Credit Insurance Corporation."

The agreement was forged by the Philippines and the U.S. Eximbank on the prodding of Paris Club, the major creditor countries' organization.

Affected by the rescheduling agreement were loans extended by the U.S. Eximbank to various Philippine corporations and guaranteed by the Philippine government through the Philguarantee. These were also ensured by the Foreign Credit Insurance Corp. (FCIC).

In his legal opinion, Drilon emphasized that the Philippine government "has the full power, authority and legal right to incur the indebtedness and other obligations" covered by the agreement.

Thailand

Correspondent Looks at Cambodian Cease-Fire

BK1605010591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 May 91 p A10

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] If all goes well, the voluntary ceasefire and the upcoming peace talks in Jakarta could lead to wider cooperation among the conflicting factions and the involvement of the international community.

At the moment three issues related to the United Nations peace plan remain the major stumbling blocks to the peace process—the disarmament and demobilization, the non-return of the genocidal policies and practices and the question of Cambodia's sovereignty and independence.

Phnom Penh still insists that any disarmament and demobilization of its troops would surely bring back the Khmer Rouge. Prime Minister Hun Sen and other Vietnam-backed Cambodian leaders have repeatedly said that the government armed forces' status quo must be maintained. Phnom Penh has agreed to the UN idea of regrouping and cantonment of all the warring factions under the international organization's supervision.

With Japan's peace plan and the UN special envoy, Rafeeuddin Ahmed's explanatory note, there is a possibility that Phnom Penh would agree to the military arrangement during the interim period. In the near future, it is likely that Cambodia would accept the UN peace plan with some qualifications.

On its part, Japan has been working hard to convince Hun Sen that accepting the UN plan would serve the long-term interest of Cambodia. Tokyo invited him for a informal visit for a physical check-up last month during which the UN peace plan was tackled but without any real progress.

The Phnom Penh government is currently working on the concrete measures deemed necessary to prevent the return of the dreadful practices that will include these steps: the disintegration of the Khmer Rouge as a political and military entity; the Khmer Rouge's public renouncement of its past as well as a consensus among the four factions on the issue; a provision in the newly drafted constitution to prevent this policy's recurrence and a plea to foreign

countries for help if there is a potential danger for the return of the genocidal policy.

Perhaps what will prove to be the most difficult would be the question of Cambodia's sovereignty, especially questions related to by how much and how far should be UN peace-keeping forces be allowed to perform their duty inside Cambodia without infringing the host's integrity and independence.

Phnom Penh is currently controlling most of the country including the majority the population of 7.8 million. The resistance forces have managed to strengthen areas under their occupation mostly along the Thai-Lao border including some hideouts inside Cambodia.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk has expressed a willingness to go to Jakarta where he could attend peace talks with and hold discussions with other Cambodian leaders. His meeting with Hun Sen there this time is highly desirable because it could settle the leadership issue of the nine-month old supreme national council once and for all. Six representatives each from the government and resistance groups now make up the council.

One of Sihanouk's aides said in Paris that the prince is ready to discuss the unresolved council's chairmanship issue—the thorn which marred the earlier meeting among the Cambodian factions in Bangkok last September. It is possible that the council's members could eventually be expanded from 12 to 14. The increase will allow Sihanouk to join the council, which enshrines the sovereignty of Cambodia.

With a properly-functioning SNC, the issue of UN role could be settled. After that France and Indonesia, the chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, would reconvene the conference to work out details on hordes of problems such as the UN peace operations, the repatriation of Cambodia refugees stranded inside Thailand, the reconstruction of Cambodia and preparation for a general election.

As far as international efforts are concerned, some Bangkok-based diplomats and UN officials hope that the four-man military mission to review the cease-fire situation in Cambodia this week would lead to more cooperation among the Cambodians, especially the Hun Sen government and the non-communist Cambodian resistance.

A diplomat whose country is actively involved in the Cambodian peace process said that the new Thai government is trying to increase cooperation with the two non-communist groups rather than the Khmer Rouge, which is the strongest of the three coalition resistance factions.

One indication is that last month the Thai military lobbied an industrialized country, so far unsuccessful, to provide a covert aid to support the non-Communist resistance after Washington froze the US$7 million worth of non-lethal assistance recently. It was released last month.

The diplomat said that China and Vietnam must be more cooperative. During the talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen this week in Beijing, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said the two communists countries should play constructive roles in Cambodia and urged them to hold discussion again.

As a frontline state, bordering Cambodia, Thailand can also do something that will contribute to this positive trend. It does not have to be a new or bold initiative, which Thailand has said time and again that it would not undertake. At the very least, Bangkok can, if it so wishes, sever its arms transfer to the resistance unilaterally.

Sukhumphan Boriphat of Chulalongkon University's Institute of Security and International Studies said that Thailand could do more than just sit on the fence. Thailand should now declare a voluntarily cessation of arms transfer.

Thailand's self-restraint, he said, would strengthen the United Nations peace plan, which Bangkok supports. In practice, a cessation of arms aid, he said, would not affect the field operations of the Cambodian resistance factions fighting the Vietnam-backed government troops.

In the past, Thailand expressed the desire to see an arms moratorium but failed to seriously commit itself to the matter.

After all, Sukhumphan said the Khmer Rouge reportedly has an underground arms stockpile to wage war inside Cambodia for at least two years.

Although the Thai government officially denies that no foriegn arms pass through Thailand for the Cambodian resistance, it is an open secret that Thailand has been acting as a faithful arms conduit, particularly for Chinese arms. Recently both Army Chief Gen Suchina Khraprayun and Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong dismissed the same allegation.

Obviously, military personnel stationed along the Thai-Cambodian border are involved in the extensive border smuggling trade which amounts to millions and millions of baht.

The voluntary cessation of arms transfer would augue well for the existing ceasefire and provide an impetus for the June 2-3 peace talks among the Cambodian representatives in Jakarta.

Local Committee Meets on Cross-Border Trade

BK1705015791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 91 p 6

[Text] Aranyaprathet—A local committee met again yesterday with Cambodian officials to discuss the opening of markets for cross-border trade.

The two sides had agreed in principle at their first meeting to open two markets, one in Poipet on the Cambodian side and the other in Ban Khlong Luk on the Thai side, on June 15.

The Thai team, led by Burapha Task Force commander Maj-Gen Thitiphong Chennuwat, crossed the border to Poipet and met with the Cambodian team, led by Chav Sophon, deputy governor of Banteay Meanchey Province.

A Cambodian source said the Thai side agreed to provide upon request construction materials for the Poipet market.

Mine clearings at the two market sites have already been completed.

The Thai side declined to guarantee no-shelling of the markets by the three Khmer resistance factions, saying it is Cambodia's internal problem to be settled among themselves.

The team also turned down a request for water and electricity supply to the Poipet market, saying the matter must be forwarded to a higher-level authority.

The Thai side brushed aside proposed projects for roads and the Khlong Luk Bridge improvement in view of United Nations policy to provide economic assistance with Japanese support after a peace settlement is reached.

Both sides agreed to use the Thai baht as the main currency for trading at the two markets.

After the meeting, the Thai committee led members of the Khmer committee and their family members on a visit to Aranyaprathet where they had lunch and went shopping.

Minister: Saudi Arabia To Lift Ban on Workers

BK1705014791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 91 p 1

[Text] Saudi Arabia has agreed to lift the controversial ban on Thai labourers, Kasemsamoson Kasemsi of the Prime Minister's Office revealed yesterday after returning from a five-nation tour during which he explored job opportunities for Thai workers.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said Interior Minister Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz had informed him of the decision to employ about 50,000 Thai workers in new construction projects beginning next year.

The ban on Thai labourers was imposed after the murder of three Saudi diplomats in Bangkok last year. The murders remain unsolved.

About 140,000 Thai workers were in Saudi Arabia in 1990 but this number dwindled to 50,000 by the time the Gulf War erupted.

M.R. Kasemsamoson, who returned yesterday from a five-nation tour which included the Middle East and England, said the lifting of the ban on Thai labourers marked a new era in relations between the two countries.

"Riyadh's decision to lift the ban is seen as a positive development following 15 months of strained relations caused by the fatal shooting of three Saudi diplomats," he said.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said Saudi Arabia had not yet lifted the ban on Thai labourers, but this was merely a formality that would be conducted soon. However, he admitted that Riyadh had not stated when it would lift the ban.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said his delegation met with Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz and also the Interior Minister. During the visit the PM's [Prime Minister's] Office minister also conveyed his Majesty the King's message to the King of Saudi Arabia.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said that Saudi officials had expressed appreciation for the King's message and hoped that Thai police could soon solve the mystery surrounding the murder of its diplomats in Bangkok last year.

The Saudi authorities also expressed admiration for the skill of Thai workers which was one of the reasons for lifting the ban.

The minister also revealed that Kuwait had announced it would immediately employ 300 Thai workers in various construction projects.

He said Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah had informed him that Kuwait wanted to re-employ the 7,000 Thai workers who had worked there before the Gulf War but financial problems prevented this.

M.R. Kasemsamoson said he conveyed the Thai Government's willingness to help Kuwait secure soft loans from Japan in order to finance such construction projects which would include Thai workers.

Labour Department deputy chief Amphon Chunnanon, who accompanied M.R. Kasemsamoson during the trip, said Tehran had agreed to employ about 200 Thai workers for construction work on petrochemical projects.

Iran intends to employ an additional 4,000 Thai workers for various construction projects leading up to 1994. Thai workers would be paid in US currency, she said.

In England, M.R. Kasemsamoson said, he held discussions with private companies contracted to undertake construction projects in Kuwait on the possibility of choosing Thai companies as subcontractors.

Embassy in Riyadh To Look After Own Interests

BK1605145491 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] To better suit the changing situation in the Middle East, the cabinet has ruled that from now on the Royal Thai Embassy in Riyadh would look after Thailand's interests in as well as relations with the United Arab Emirates. In the past, the United Arab Emirates was under the jurisdiction of the Royal Thai Embassy in Muscat.

Minister Criticized for Yielding on Patent Issue

BK1705115591 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 16 May 91 p 3

[Article written by Dr. Aphichet Naklekha]

[Excerpts] Pharmaceutical patents became a hot issue from 1985 when the United States threatened to take action. In the beginning it was the threat to revoke GSP privileges if Thailand did not amend the 1979 Patent Act in keeping with the demands of international drug firms which had major companies in the United States and strong influence over the U.S. President. That issue caused a rift within the government and led to the dissolution of parliament on 29

April 1988. Under Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan's first cabinet, the Thai Government maintained that it would not amend any legislation just to please the U.S. Anyway, Thailand's stance had changed during the Chatchai second government with Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on. The minister stated during an interview (which was broadcast on all television channels) that Thailand should not panic over U.S. retaliation under Section 301. He said he had discussed with U.S. trade officials (particularly Mrs. Carla Hills, a trade negotiator who is very tough, clever, and sharp-tongued) and had asked them to convince their government to shift its stance. He said Thailand should not panic because it would not affect the country seriously. He explained that although Thailand may give in to U.S. pressure and amend the patent law, the outcome would not be disastrous as Thailand plans to extend patent protection only to pharmaceutical products generally used by the rich, such as those for the treatment of ulcers. The poor would not be affected. The interview was given by Minister Amaret only a few days before the coup d'etat on 23 February. [Passage omitted]

The pharmaceutical patents issue cannot be seen from one angle only since it involves all national development processes, particularly Thailand's industrial development. In our capacity as pharmacists and doctors, we are firm in our position based on the principle of public interest. We call all concerned authorities in each ministry, especially the prime minister, to judge wisely in matters involving the general health of the public. You could bring disaster upon the people by granting patent protection to pharmaceuticals from other countries, though Thailand's situation still does not permit it. Such a decision could take us ten steps back, with no hope of progressing even a step forward—a situation already experienced by some countries. We therefore would like to emphasize here that U.S. Section 301, whether or not it is applied to Thailand, is a provisional measure, whereas an amendment to our copyright and patent law would commit Thailand permanently. Is this bargain fair to us? [Passage omitted]

Lecturer Criticizes Minister

BK1605113891 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 14 May 91 pp 1, 2

[Text] Speaking at a panel discussion at Thammasat University on 13 May on the topic of patent law and Thai-U.S. trade, University Lecturer Aphisit Wetchachiwa from the Economics Department said that those in power had ordered the Special Branch Police to check the background of academics and monitor the actions of students opposing the amendment of patent law. He said he felt sorry for the police for finding nothing substantial to charge academics and students whose campaign is based on facts and reasons. Those in power believed the campaigners had something to gain from pharmaceutical companies, which was not true. Aphisit said: "Accusation of dissidents being communists has become a thing of the past."

Aphisit said that the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] last week had asked him and his working group to explain the reasons behind their move. He said he did not think this was necessary, for the matter concerned the government and the Commerce Ministry, not the NPKC. Besides, he did not want to give and impression that he recognized NPKC interference in the Commerce Ministry's work. He was ready to explain his position to the Commerce Ministry, and he would stick to his original belief that patent protection for pharmaceutical products in Thailand is still not necessary. This can wait for another 10 more years until Thailand can upgrade its pharmaceutical industry to a self-sufficient level. Also if patent protection for pharmaceuticals was inevitable, there should be a provisional clause to strictly control the prices of medicines. Anyway, the price controlling mechanism in the present law is already working effectively and there is no need to change it.

The lecturer charged that, in his letter to USTR [United States Trade Representative] Chief Carla Hills, Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on had given in to several U.S. demands, including the extension of the protection period from 15 to 20 years. He said that from what he learned from Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, Thailand has agreed in principle to amend the patent act, but no details concerning changes had been discussed.

Aphisit said that Minister Amaret must chose now between pushing through the amendment regardless of opposition and consequently putting the nation in a disadvantageous position, or admitting to his mistakes and losing face. He said that the medicine price control commission under the new draft amendment proposed by the Commerce Ministry will never be able to monitor medicine prices because companies would generally keep their prices secret. They can also claim high costs of production or shortages as reasons to raise prices.

Record, Tape Association Calls Off Protest

BK1705035391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 91 p 26

[Text] The Thai Magnetic Tape and Record Association (TMTRA) has called off its protest after the local enforcement arm of US tape producers agreed to consider their proposal.

Seven major audio cassette producers making up the "Standard Group" earlier threatened to protest the government crackdown on the audio and video pirating industry if its talks yesterday with representatives of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI) failed to reach a compromise.

The TMTRA asked for a six-month moratorium in the crackdown so local tape cassette producers and distributors could apply to become agents of US copyright holders. It also said its members needed two years to dispose of copied cassette tapes on the market.

Economic and Finance Crime Suppression Centre (EFCSC) director Pol Col Wanlop Watchanaphukka said the meeting organised by the EFCSC at its headquarters ended positively with the two sides agreeing to work towards settling their dispute.

Pol Col Wanlop said the meeting indicated the crackdown on the multi-million-baht tape pirating industry was meeting with success and he hoped the US private sector would be satisfied with the progress to date.

IFPI director for Thailand Thianchai Pinwiset said after the meeting concrete steps had been made in settling the issue, but this depended on the sincerity of local producers in agreeing to stop their illegal activities.

"I think it may be too soon to say whether things will be all right," he said.

Mr Thianchai said the IFPI would send the proposal from the local audio cassette producers to Washington for a final decision before holding more talks with the TMTRA.

"The IFPI is only an enforcement arm," he said. "We cannot give any commitments, but we think there is the chance for a compromise."

Mr Thianchai said the US private sector was satisfied with attempts by the Thai Government to crack down on the audio and video pirating industry, and would help in reducing the pressure for trade sanctions in the US under the special 301 provisions of the Trade Act over failures to adequately protect intellectual property rights.

TMTRA president Charoenchai Wang-arayatham was also pleased with the outcome of the meeting. He said he was very confident US copyright holders would accept the association proposal.

In applying to become agents of the copyright holders, the TMTRA members want the IFPI to set up a holding company in Thailand to help in arranging contracts with the American production companies.

The association also recommended that there be some way of stopping the monopolisation of the market by a few agents so free competition could be allowed to exist. They asked the IFPI to withdraw any legal action under the copyright law begun early this year.

EFCSC reports show the special police task force has raided 24 suspected copyrights violators since March 28, 20 of which were alleged to be major audio cassette pirates. A source in the audio cassette industry said American copyright owners could well reject the TMTRA demands as asking too much.

He said the local audio cassette producers had to give an assurance that they would stop their illegal activities if the US agreed to grant them the six-month grace period.

"We are still a long way from concluding this matter, but the talks are better than a confrontation," he said.

Vietnam

City, Provinces, Organizations Hold Congresses

Ho Chi Minh City Congress

BK1205155591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 May 91

[Text] On 4 May, some 492 official delegates representing more than 87,000 party members held the first round of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization's fifth congress. Also attending the congress were Comrade Vo Van Kiet, member of the party central committee political bureau, and five other members and alternate members of the Party Central Committee, who stood for election as delegates to the seventh party congress at the recommendation of the Party Central Committee.

Opening the congress, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the city party committee, said. Over the past several months, the city party organization has held seminars among party members and the people of all strata to discuss and make suggestions to the draft documents of the seventh party congress. This political indoctrination drive has attracted the active participation of the entire party members and the people from all walks of life. Many valuable, constructive, straightforward, and trustworthy views have gratefully been acknowledged and reported to the Party Central Committee.

Also through this political indoctrination drive, democracy has further been fostered, the flesh and blood relations between the party and people have further been cemented, and the party's intellect has extensively been cultivated, thus creating favorable conditions for the party congresses at the grass-roots level to achieve good results.

The congress concentrated on discussing major issues concerning differences in viewpoints in the draft documents and other matters of concern and recommended amendments and supplements to six points concerning the key tasks in the revolutionary process of our country. These included the assessment of the party's situation and leadership; the targets for socialist construction and economic, social, and cultural stabilization and development; national security and defense; and the political system.

The congress laid stress on party building work in its recapitulative report. The views obtained from grass-roots party organizations and the masses were submitted to the congress and all the issues brought up for discussion were acknowledged and clarified to make it possible for the congress to devote all its thought and energy to the various draft documents, thus demonstrating the high sense of responsibility of a party organization that retains a comprehensively important position in the country's common revolutionary undertaking.

Opening Day of All-Army Congress

BK1305145591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 24 Apr 91

[Article by Xuan Ngan]

[Summary] "On the first day of the Fifth All-Army Party Congress, the delegates enthusiastically discussed the main contents of the draft platform on socialist construction for the transitional period. With a high sense of responsibility, the delegates contributed concrete and rich views to the standpoints and main issues mentioned in the draft documents."

According to Professor Le Xuan Luu, director of the Politico-Military Academy, we have every reason to believe that our socialist construction will be crowned with

victory because we have based ourselves on the valuable knowledge of many socialist theoreticians as well as on the lessons we have learned from the achievements and failures of fraternal socialist countries and from our own socialist construction over the past 30 years, especially since the renovation process initiated by the sixth party congress.

"Through their discussions, the delegates expressed unanimity of mind over the party draft documents and maintained that the draft platform was necessary because it meets objective requirements and responds to the aspirations of our people nationwide." In their opinions, the realities in Vietnam over the past 60 years and current developments in the world, especially in Eastern Europe, indicate that negation of the communist parties' role and implementation of political pluralism, a multi-party system, and unlimited democracy will plunge a nation into an overall crisis. "As far as our country is concerned, only the communist party founded and trained by Uncle Ho is able to undertake the historic mission of bringing about prosperity and happiness in our country."

"Assessing the achievements by the Vietnamese revolution over the past 60 years and the success of four years of renovation, the delegates unanimously maintained that the very important initial results of the renovation process have created political stability in our country and have boosted the national economy and improved the people's living conditions step by step, that only reactionary and opportunistic elements have deliberately denied the national renovation process under the party leadership, and that the very results of the renovation undertaking initiated and led by our party have made their presence felt in our country and have positively contributed to the development of the international communist and worker movements."

Discussing chapter three on socioeconomic development for the transitional period, many delegates stressed the need to concentrate efforts on human resource development, considering this as one of the key measures for solving social problems. Dealing with this issue, Doctor Nguyen Hoa Thinh, director of the Military Technical Academy, suggested that the platform should attach more importance to the role of the intelligentsia, which is part of the worker-peasant-intelligentsia alliance, and that the human resource development program should be given a key role so that it can help young generations improve their revolutionary quality, thus proving themselves worthy of the task of protecting and building the Vietnamese socialist fatherland.

Nguyen Van Thiet, director of the Seventh Military Region Military Procuratorate, contributed some suggestions to the socialist law enforcement system. According to the comrade, the following measures must be adopted: First, it is necessary to heighten everyone's awareness of the need to strictly enforce the socialist legal system, to further systematize our management mechanisms, especially our economic management mechanisms, and to make sure that the state-operated economic sector plays a key role and other economic sectors correctly follow the socialist economic orbit. Second, it is important to include law education in school curricula. Third, strict measures must be taken against law violations.

Regarding chapter six of the draft platform, the delegates suggested that the seventh national party congress should further clarify those issues related to the nature of the working class, define more clearly the fundamental principles governing the orientations and objectives of party renovation, and further analyze the causes leading to mistakes and shortcomings in providing party leadership over each development stage of the revolution.

The delegates also suggested that the seventh national party congress shed more light on the contradictions between the two paths, and further clarify the objectives and tasks of building the Army and the all-people national defense system and the relations between the party's two strategic missions.

Nguyen Van Linh Speaks

BK1305124791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 24 April 91

[Report on "major developments of the first two days of the on-going Fifth All-Army Party Congress which opened on 23 April 1991"—read by announcer]

[Summary] "The Fifth All-Army Party Congress opened in Hanoi on the morning of 23 April. The congess had the honor of welcoming Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, party general secretary, who came to address it."

Addressing the congress, the comrade general secretary said: "The all-Army party congress occupies a very important position. It is a great honor and also a heavy duty for you to have been chosen by the entire Armed Forces to attend this congress. You, comrades, are dutybound to contribute your views of high quality to various party documents and to choose worthy delegates to attend the national party congress.

"The comrade general secretary warmly hailed cadres and combatants of the entire armed forces for remaining firm politically and idelogically. He pointed out: Against a complex, difficult world and domestic situation, our armed forces, with a high unity of mind, have expressed their aspirations during many party congresses at various levels, have categorically affirmed their determination to follow the socialist path under the party leadership, to oppose political pluralism and a multi-party system as well as all demands for an extreme democracy. The demonstration of their high identity of views over various fundamental idelogical concepts of the party is of great significance. The armed forces should always be worthy of being the army of Uncle Ho, an effective tool of the state, and a reliable prop of our party and people.

"The comrade emphatically said: At this congress, not only you, delegates, represent the wisdom of lower-echelon congresses, but you are also required to devote your mind to further discussing renovative ideas in order to firmly defend the party's ideological viewpoints.

"Those delegates to be sent by the all-army party congress to attend the seventh party congress will be dutybound to contribute their wisdom to various documents of the congress and to choose those comrades truly exemplary to attend the seventh party Central Committee with a determination not to allow sneaking into the party central organ by opportunists who are turning their back against the revolutionary undertaking and who are always seeking personal gains.

"On behalf of the congress, Senior General Le Duc Anh expressed the congress' enthusiasm in welcoming the valuable advices of the comrade general secretary."

On the afternoon of 23 April, the all-army party congress concentrated on discussing and giving views on the three documents—the platform for socialist construction during the transitional period, the strategy for socioeconomic development until the year 2000, and the political report.

"Among these three documents, the congress concentrated chiefly on discussing and clarifying the need to have a platform, conditions for preparing the platform, the name of the platform, and the fundamental views on the appraisal of the successes of the national revolution over the past 60 years as well as over the past four years of implementing the party's renovation policy since the sixth party congress."

Those attending also discussed the socialist construction in our country. "There were 70 suggestions made during various debates, all of which displayed a high identity of views of the participatants concered over various draft documents. And there are no contradictory views over the essential contents of these documents." However, in the chapter dealing with national defense and security, the delegates called for "further clarification of the position, substance, orientations for construction, and relations in a unified system between national defense and economy."

On 24 April, the congress continued to discuss the three documents. Ten delegates gave their views. Basically, all the delegates spoke in favor of the three draft documents. "They shared the view that the chapter dealing with national defense and security should be rewritten to suit the current situation, given the need to reaffirm the principle of party leadership over the Army."

Discussion on 3 Documents

BK1405113591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 25 Apr 91

[Review of the main activities of three days of the current Fifth All-Army Congress of Party Organization Delegates by station correspondent]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends: After three days of animated discussion with a high sense of political responsibility toward the party's revolutionary undertaking, on the afternoon of 24 April the All-Army Party Organization Congress concluded the part of discussion on the three documents, namely the platform for socialist construction during the period of transition, the strategy for socioeconomic stabilization and development up to the year 2000, and the draft political report.

The 21 views expressed at the conference hall and those that had not yet been expounded by the other delegates were unanimously in favor of the contents of these three documents. Concerning the evaluation of achievements, the All-Army Party Organization Congress suggested that in the documents of the seventh party congress, it is necessary to adequately appraise the defense of the country's border and the fulfillment of international duty.

The congress suggested to the seventh national party congress that at a time when we are striving to develop many economic components under numerous systems of ownership of the means of production, attention should be paid to the collective system of ownership, and appropriate investment policies and measures should be formulated to enable the state-run and collective economic components to retain a leading role in the national economy.

It was also suggested that in the documents of the seventh party congress, the traitorous schemes of the hostile forces against socialism and the revolution in our country should be revealed more clearly to prevent everybody from entertaining any vague illusion and relaxing vigilance, and the tasks of defending the country and building up the Army and the all-people national defense system should be defined more sufficiently.

Delegates to the All-Army Party Organization Congress reached an identity of views on all major solutions specified in the draft documents. They only suggested that these documents should lay stress on the need to consolidate the socialist forces, especially the management and leadership machineries and core forces of proletarian dictatorship, and should affirm clearly the task of consolidating the socialist array in the domains of ideology and culture and circulation and distribution, which constitute a pressing demand.

Regarding the struggle against corruption, the congress suggested that the seventh national party congress concentrate on clarifying three questions:

—Why does corruption develop?

—Who are those engaged in coruption?

—Why do the results of struggle against corruption remain insufficient despite the adoption of numerous policies?

On 25 May, the All-Army Party Organization Congress concentrated on discussing the draft report on party building and the draft of the revised party statute. This was a topic that had been discussed with animation by the delegates with many profoundly theoretic and realistic views. After nearly 20 views were expounded by the delegates, the congress unanimously agreed with the viewpoints and contents laid down in these documents.

However, these views suggested that in the preambles of the two documents, it is necessary to assert that the Communist Party of Vietnam is the vanguard unit of the

Vietnamese working class, and that it represents the interests of the working class and the laboring people, as well as of the entire nation.

Regarding party-building work, the congress reached an identity of views on the need to apply the principle of democratic centralism.

Referring to the five lessons of experience and the causes of existing weaknesses, the congress unanimously agreed with the draft documents. However, it pointed out the need to carry out a profound analysis of the situation during the period from 1975 up to present. During this period, the people's faith in the party was dampened due to the failure of all echelons to pay adequate attention to carrying out party-building work, intensifying the system of proletarian dictatorship, respecting the people's right to mastery, and strictly enforcing discipline.

The congress suggested that in the orientations for party-building, importance should be attached to this work at the grass-roots levels, especially village and city ward levels, as well as to the intensive education of youths on the nature of the working class to create a truly worthy contingent of cadres for continuing the cause of the party.

The congress also pointed out the need for the seventh national party congress to affirm that our party not only inherits President Ho Chi Minh's ideological and ethical values, but also uses Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh concepts as the ideological foundation and compass for all of its activities.

Regarding the revised party statutes, many views suggested that article 13 should point out clearly the need for all delegates to congresses at higher levels to be elected from the grass-roots level upward, saying that only in this way can we truly ensure democracy and can those delegates truly represent the intellect of their party organizations.

Concentration on Defense Duty

BK1305153991 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Apr 91

[Text] On the fourth day of the All-Army Organization Party Congress, the delegates concentrated their discussion on the evaluation of the implementation of the national defense duty from the Sixth National CPV Congress and the five-year direction of national defense duty for 1991-1995.

The delegates agreed that in the last five years, the party echelons in the Armed Forces have actively implemented the military duties of Resolution 02 of the party Political Bureau and resolutions of the Central Military Party Committee. They brought back home the entire force which had been on international duty in a friendly country, adjusted the force according to defense strategy, and cut back more than 600,000 soldiers. On the basis of strengthening the duty of building defense areas and intensifying building the reserve and militia forces according to the motto "quality and reliability first," they have built a permanently strong Army to successfully guarantee the duty of national defense in the border island areas; to strongly hold the land, the sea area, the airspace, and the outer areas of the fatherland; to contribute significantly to the security, political, and social order stabilization; and to firmly protect the national renovation in conformity with the sixth party congress resolutions.

However, the national defense duty has not been understood completely and has not been the movement of the entire force and the party. In the peaceful background, some cadres from the central to local level still show neglect and lack of alertness and foresight in the long-term national defense strategy. Therefore, the change in the national defense according to the resolutions of the Political Bureau and of the central level is still limited.

In discussing the direction and duty of the national defense for the next five years, many opinions stressed that in order to successfully protect the socialist fatherland and the national renovation undertaking in the direction of socialism under the party leadership, the entire party, people, and Army—particularly the leading military forces, local forces, and the militia —must never be allowed to slacken alertness toward the enemy and anti-socialism forces and the external reactionary forces which are conspiring a subversive plot against our country through peaceful evolution. They said that we must sharpen our vigilance; strive to build a permanent, modernized Army; build a strong militia; nurture, construct, and develop the national defense industry equal to the fatherland protection; and closely coordinate the economy with the national defense and the national defense with economy which is a combined measure to maintain the peace and successfully protect the socialist fatherland and the socialist construction undertaking of our people.

On Saturday, 27 April the congress will continue to proceed.

'High Agreement' on Documents

BK1405120391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Apr 91

[Article by Station Correspondent Dang Van Nhan]

[Text] The Fifth Congress of the All-Army Party Committee just concluded after five working days with a sense of renovation, democracy, seriousness, honesty, and full of responsibility to the fatherland and the people.

The delegates contributed profound opinions to all documents of the seventh party congress. The opinions really represented the intellect and aspirations of the soldiers who always consider national integrity, the sacred and inviolable right of the fatherland, as their life's aim. The opinions were compiled from thousands of opinions of party members in grassroots organizations during the previous grassroots party congresses. Therefore, those giving opinions were not there to criticize, blame, and win credibility on minor things but they concentrated on analyzing to find out the essence of subjects.

The delegates considered the regulations, main standpoints of the draft documents as their own responsibility, their involvement, their contribution in giving the glory to

the party and therefore they have to be responsible for the party's mistakes and shortcomings.

In the working days, there were 102 representatives registered to speak. But because of the time limit, only 46 opinions were given at the congress.

Basically, the opinions showed high agreement on the main contents, standpoints, and major principles in the draft documents.

The congress stressed that the draft documents should clarify the basic issues: the social classes and the class struggle; the fighting to gain and protect the national independence, peace, and stability in the new situation; the complete development of the right of mastery of the working people on every field of social life; the refusal of the systems of political pluralism, multi-party, and opposition party; the basic contents of the proletarian dictatorship; the real characteristics of socialism; the blood and flesh relations between the two strategic duties of protecting and building the nation; and the confirmation of the issues of principles and targets. Only on the basis of a complete understanding of the principles and targets can we become flexible in strategic policies and avoid confusion and realize when mistakes are being made.

The congress also mentioned the serious and strict requirements on the party correction and renovation to strengthen the nature of the working class and the vanguardism of the party. In this way, the party can be equal to the task of the leading duty in the new revolutionary stages and in the situation with many current difficulties and complexities.

The congress also suggested some revolutionary measures to strengthen and consolidate the national defense and security ability in order to firmly protect our socialist fatherland and successfully perform the international duty.

As a military party committee, therefore, despite providing opinions on different issues, after all, the congress mentioned two strategic duties and the organic relations between those two duties.

Through observation of the current complicated, changing situation in the world and the real situation of the Vietnamese revolution, the delegates profoundly analyzed and correctly evaluated the essence of imperialism in the past and present. They said that imperialism knows how to exploit the constant and most modern, advanced scientific and technological achievements of mankind for economic and military applications. Their application of the scientific achievements in military fields is not to protect peace and stability on our planet but only to force other nations to be submissive to them and to carry on their united plot of opposing and destroying socialism. This is not our imagination but reality as proved by their actions against other nations or with their bold announcements.

The delegates said that it is not quite right that the party documents have said nothing about a situation in which imperialism is monopolizing the world. Besides, the reactionaries in the country and overseas are working hand in hand to propagandize against the revolution, advocating political pluralism and a multi-party system, degrading our party's leadership, and demanding non-limited democracy. Therefore, in that situation, if the national defense duty is not placed in its appropriate position and not invested properly according to the economic capacity of the country, that will lead to mistakes with unmeasurable consequences. Bringing up that issue, the delegates did not intend to exaggerate the national defense and security duty but they made that statement based on the subjective reality and recent domestic and international developments. Consequently, at the congress, many practical suggestions were made about this strategic duty. All the opinions were compiled into a practical and logical suggestion to the party draft documents.

The other issue which was contributed to the draft by this congress is the need to intensify the management of the socialist government in every field. To do that, it is necessary to strengthen the socialist forces, forces with socialist characteristics, socialist law, and socialist education and to push back the capitalist tendency which is developing and monopolizing even in the party and government mechanism. That is shown in the habit of bureaucracy, embezzlement, under-counter dealing, corruption, and getting rich illegally. It is necessary to counter corruption more thoroughly and to point out that corruption is not a problem with morale quality but it is a capitalist tendency which contaminates some party cadres. Thereafter, it is necessary to strengthen the socialist front in every field. At first, it should be strengthened in the areas of ideology, circulation, and distribution. Only then can the power of government and the party reputation be consolidated with the people.

The Fifth Congress of the All-Army Party Committee elected 58 official and five alternate representatives in one round to attend the Seventh National Party Congress.

Appeal by Fifth All-Army Congress

BK1405130191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 29 Apr 91

[Letter of appeal read by Major General Nguyen Van Thai, a delegate from the General Political Department, at the Fifth All-Army Congress—recorded]

[Text] Hanoi 27 April 1991.

The Fifth All-Army Party Organization Congress cordially sends this letter to all party members, youth union members, cadres, combatants, specialists and defense workers and employees in the entire Army.

Dear comrades: From 23 to 27 April 1991, the Fifth Congress of All-Army Party Organization delegates was successfully held in Hanoi. Attending the congress were 324 delegates elected from among party bases. This was an important event in the political life of our troops which manifested the single-mindedness of the Army's party organizations and all our troops in their advance to the seventh national party congress.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the party Central Committee, attended and addressed the congress.

clearly pointing out the specific tasks of the military party organization and all our troops in the new situation.

The party Central Committee's military commission reported the situation and results of organizing means for party members and the masses to contribute their views to the draft documents of the seventh party congress and to conduct the first-round party congress at various levels.

The congress unanimously observed that in the face of complex developments in the world situation and attacks from many directions by hostile forces inside and outside the country, our troops have always proved to be firm politically and ideologically, and absolutely loyal to the party, the homeland and the people in their firm and persistent advance to socialism, and are determined to protect the party and the socialist regime.

The congress warmly commended all the party members, youth union members, cadres, combatants, specialists and defense workers and employees in the entire Army for having displayed their strong confidence, enthusiasm and high sense of political responsibility in overcoming all difficulties and hardships to emulate in training and work, stay combat ready, engage in productive labor, build the economy and scrupulously observe the state law and Army codes to welcome the all-Army party congress and the national party congress.

The congress of all-Army party organizations delegates concentrated on debating and reached a high degree of identical views on the fundamental issues of a principled matter, contributed many profound ideas to the contents of the draft documents, and petitioned various measures to accelerate the process of comprehensive renovation under the party leadership and successfully fulfill the objectives set for building and defending the socialist homeland in the years to come.

The congress elected a delegation of 58 comrades to the seventh national party congress. These comrades symbolized the will and ability of the Army party organization.

Dear comrades: Over the past five years, following the renovation line set forth by the sixth party congress, our people have initially scored very important achievements in building and defending the socialist fatherland. The seventh national party congress is extremely significant to the destiny and future of the country. The congress will be held against the background of very complex developments in the world situation. Imperialism and international reactionaries are launching intensive attacks to eliminate the socialist gains and wipe out Marxism-Leninism and socialism.

As regards our country, reactionaries and opportunists in the country and foreign reactionary forces are striving to distort the party's renovation line with a view to eliminating the party's leadership role and separating the party and the state from the people to deviate the country from socialist objectives.

Well aware of the special importance of the seventh party congress, the Fifth Congress of All-Army Party Organization Delegates called on all party members, youth union members, cadres, combatants, specialists and defense workers and employees in the entire Army to side with all party members and the people and stir up a seething movement for revolutionary acts to make practical, worthy contributions to the success of the seventh party congress, specifically:

1. We will remain absolutely confident, united, and single-minded around the party Central Committee, persist in the advance to socialism, the path chosen by our party, Uncle Ho, and people; assert the unique leadership role of our party in the revolution and the renovation process, and will not accept political pluralism and several opposition parties.

2. We will strengthen internal solidarity and the people-Army unity, build healthy, firm and strong party organizations to remain worthy of being the leading nucleus of all the Army; strive to develop the revolutionary nature and traditions of Uncle Ho's soldiers, constantly raise the level of political knowledge and combat readiness, and together with all the people be prepared to smash all enemy plots and acts of sabotage, protect the party and the socialist regime, and defend the integrity and sovereignty of territory, waters, continental shelves and bridgeheads of the country.

3. We will uphold the bright international solidarity of the working class, strengthen international solidarity on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and the party's lines and policies and be ready to accept and outstandingly fulfill all tasks assigned by the party and the people.

The congress is convinced that all our troops will certainly create comprehensive changes for the better to remain worthy of being the effective tool and reliable mainstay of our party, socialist state, and people.

The Fifth Congress of the All-Army Party Organization Delegates.

Agricultural Organs Congress

BK1205063891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 3 May 91

[Text] The bloc of central agricultural organs held its party organization congress recently with the participation of 296 delegates representing almost 3,000 party members from its seven basic party organizations.

During its three-day session, the congress contributed more than 30 opinions to the party draft documents. Most of them contended that in the present situation the party should formulate a platform on national construction to triumphantly advance toward socialism. The congress expressed its identity of views on the orientations and tasks aimed at developing the multicomponent commodity-based economy. Many delegates suggested that measures should be formulated to strengthen macro-economic management to help regulate the market of goods and labor, that the key role of the state-run economy should be asserted, and that the state-run economic structure should be strengthened. Some delegates analyzed the role and

position of the party in the socialist revolution and contended that the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] is the sole, capable party to lead the Vietnamese revolution. They rejected pluralism and the multiparty system while calling for a comprehensive renovation of the party in various aspects.

Many delegates also discussed the appraisal of agricultural achievements since the Sixth CPV Congress. They hailed efforts to renovate the agricultural management mechanism especially the implementation of Directive No. 100 and the party Central Committee Political Bureau's Resolution No. 10. The congress also proposed that the party should continue to attach prime importance to agriculture during the next several decades so as to accelerate and stabilize agricultural production—the branch that earned 50 percent of the gross national income and provided work for 80 percent of the population.

The congress elected 15 delegates to the Seventh CPV Congress.

Mass Mobilization Organs Congress

BK1205145391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] From 24 to 26 April in Hanoi, the party committee of the bloc of central mass mobilization organs held the first round of its third congress of party organization delegates.

Attending the congress were 155 delegates representing 1,115 party members. These delegates were selected from various grass- roots party organizations as well as from the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, the Vietnam Women's Union Central Committee, the Youth Union Central Committee, the Vietnam Peasants Association, the party Central Committee Mass Mobilization Department, and the Vietnam War Veterans Association.

Also present were Comrade Le Quang Dao, Comrade Vu Oanh, and some comrade members of the Party Central Committee working in the bloc of central mass mobilization organs.

Comrade Nguyen Tam Nhu, secretary of the bloc's party committee, presented a report summing up the suggestions made by cadres and party members to the draft documents of the seventh party congress.

The majority of party members reached an identity of views on the need for our party to have a new platform. They said: The platform to be made public at the seventh party congress determines the path to socialism in Vietnam—the path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho—and manifests the firm political ability of our party. This is a definite choice as we cannot move back to the national democratic revolution nor can we advance on the path of capitalism.

A small number of delegates suggested that the names of the party and country be changed. The congress concentrated on discussing three major issues concerning the platform, the economic strategy, the political report, the political system, and the question of developing the party under the spirit of democracy, openness, and constructiveness and with discussions based on realities and the thoughts and aspirations of the masses.

Most of the views expounded during the course of discussion or gathered from grass-roots party organizations were unanimously in favor of the draft documents. However, many delegates were still not sure as to how to assess the country's situation objectively and arrive at a logical solution in order to solve difficulties, especially economic ones.

Particularly, the delegates suggested that emergency measures be introduced by the seventh party congress to continue the renovation in order to improve the situation. They said:

Along with changing the economic mechanism, the party must renovate or improve the political system, increase the power of state organs, oppose corruption, and resolutely deal with cases involving corruption or negativism in all echelons.

The congress also devoted much time to dicussing the position and role of mass organizations and suggested attention be paid by the party to the activities of mass organizations under an improved political mechanism. Meanwhile, it pointed out to the need for these organizations to progress in order to adapt themselves to the new mechanism.

While expressing their views, the delegates paid special attention to the party-building issue and the role of party members.

The congress of the bloc of central mass mobilization organs elected 15 delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Nghe Tinh Province Congress

BK1205091191 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Apr 91

[Text] Nghe Tinh Province held its first round party organization congress recently. Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee attended.

Delegates discussed many issues and expressed their identity of views on various fundamental points mentioned in the party draft documents. They asserted the necessity of having the present party platform on socialist construction, debated on the achievements and shortcomings of the renovation, and discussed the party building task and the draft revision to party regulations.

The congress expressed concern about the deterioration of educational standards and discussed efforts to improve it and the lifestyle of the people, especially the younger generation. They also discussed measures to give more help to those who have served the revolution with merit.

The congress elected 50 delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Lai Chau Province Congress

BK1205063491 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 5 May 91

[Text] Lai Chau Province held its party organization congress on 25-27 April to discuss the party draft documents and debate on issues related to the party's working class characteristics, the inevitable path toward socialism, and the treatment of labor as a kind of goods.

Although delegates aired different viewpoints on the draft platform on socialist construction and the strategy of socioeconomic development, the appraisal of the party renovation cause, and the draft revision to the party regulations, all of them asserted that the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]—founded and forged by President Ho Chi Minh—is the sole party that can lead and build a prosperous and happy nation for all Vietnamese people. They also expressed an absolute rejection of pluraliam and the multiparty system, asserted that only Marxism-Leninism and President Ho Chi Minh's concepts can serve as an ideology to ensure equality for all nationalities in Vietnam, and that the CPV is a nucleus for the unity of all people in the country.

Regarding the development of the mountainous region and ethnic minority groups, many delegates contended that priority should not be given to the mountainous region but equal treatment should be applied to all zones in implementing the party and state socioeconomic development policies. They, however, stressed that northern mountain region is the buffer zone of the Red River Delta that protects the country's water resources and forests. As a result, the state should formulate a special plan and allot extra funding for developing the region's economy and formulate concrete lines and policies to upgrade the background of ethnic minority groups.

The congress elected 14 official and 1 alternate delegates—including 9 ethnic minority persons—to the seventh national party congress.

Long An Province Congress

BK1205062891 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 May 91

[Text] Long An Province concluded its party organization congress after a two-day session on 25-26 April. The congress discussed key topics mentioned in the draft party documents which include the party general and concrete lines; achievements and shortcomings; lessons of experiences; the economic structure for regions and sectors; agricultural reform; investment for agriculture; land ownership; efforts to resolve the unemployment problem; the policies on wages, public health, education, national defense, and security; and foreign affairs in the new situation.

The congress also discussed the task of party building and debated the draft revision to the party regulations.

It elected 14 official and two alternate delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Song Be Province Congress

BK1405161191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 6 May 91

[Report by station correspondent Hai Hau]

[Text] Song Be Province held its first round fifth party organization congress on 24-26 April with the participation of 309 delegates representing 12,995 party members in the province. The congress proceeded in a democratic and creative manner. Indeed, delegates to the congress were free to debate on all issues of the party and state including their concern over things that have and have not been done. Speeches delivered at the congress were carefully prepared with a high sense of responsibility. The congress also extensively discussed a number of issues condensed from 30,692 ideas contributed by party members and 4,948 viewpoints by the people.

Through these debates, the congress has contributed concrete ideas to the party draft documents. All delegates unanimously asserted the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] leadership and affirmed as correct the socialist path chosen by our party and President Ho Chi Minh.

Since the Sixth CPV Congress, implementing the renovation cause under the CPV leadership, our nation has scored many great achievements especially in the political security and economic domains. Given the complicated changes in the world at present, achievements by our country have testified to the correct, brilliant leadership of the CPV.

The congress unanimously noted that although difficulties and shortcomings are still prevailing, great achievements by us have ushered in new prospects for leading the nation to advance further.

Due to the province's great economic potential, many delegates attached importance to discussing concrete measures for economic development. They contended that efforts to strengthen the multicomponent economy are correct, yet the state must promulgate concrete laws to help economic components to develop correctly. The issue on party members engaging in private business was also discussed with animation. Most of the delegates contended that party members are also citizens, and as a result, they should be allowed to engage in private trade provided that they strictly observe all rules and regulations pertaining to their trade.

The congress also discussed in length issues related to agricultural production, the main income of the province. Delegates suggested that the state should consistently provide more fertilizer and insecticide to the peasants to help them increase production output to meet the increasing demand.

Regarding land ownership, many delegates contended that land is an asset of the public and as a result it is not proper to grant ownership to the peasants. However, the state should allow peasants to use the land on a long-term basis—five to 50 years or longer—depending on the type of land. This is aimed at encouraging the peasants to invest

more in agricultural production and to strive to increase their output, thus helping to rapidly improve their daily life.

With the spirit of broadening democracy and a high sense of responsibility, the Song Be party organization congress has won the confidence of the party members and people in the province. The tradition of unity and close relationship between the party and people of the province is an unbreakable strength that helps Song Be to firmly advance further.

Son La Province Congress

BK1405100191 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] The party organization of Son La Province held the first round of its ninth congress of delegates from 27 to 29 April. The congress, attended by 298 delegates representing more than 1,100 grass-roots party cells in the entire province, has achieved fine success.

In a spirit of intensive and serious work, unity, confidence, and renovation, the delegates engaged in lively discussions and debates and made numerous suggestions to the draft documents of the seventh party congress. All suggestions focused on four major issues, security and national defense included. All the delegates stressed that the particularly important role of mountain and border regions in national defense and security must be clearly defined, and that the livelihood of armed forces members at the border and on offshore islands must be given due attention. The congress unanimously maintained that no advance in socialism is possible without the party's leading role. It is our party's view that power belongs to the people. But the people's power cannot exist or cannot be guaranteed without the party leadership. The key factor at this juncture is that party organizations must be purified and their militancy enhanced. At the same time, social relations must be made healthier.

The congress unanimously affirmed: The party organization and people of various nationalities of Son La will persist on the socialist path chosen by the party and Uncle Ho, will continue the all-round renovation process set forth by the sixth party congress, and will not accept pluralism and multipartyism. The Communist Party of Vietnam is the sole organizer and leader of all victories of the Vietnamese revolution.

Quang Tri Province Congress

BK1505014191 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Apr 91, p 1

[VNA Report]

[Text] From 18 to 24 April, the Quang Tri provincial party organization held its first round congress with the participation of 210 delegates, who were elected from congresses at the district and city levels as well as from congresses held by subordinate party organizations.

Reflecting the aspirations and will of 16,441 party members from 440 party bases and 460,000 people in the province, delegates to the congress contributed 44 views to various key issues, such as evaluating our party's achievements and shortcomings in the socialist revolution; the characteristics of the socialist era and regime in Vietnam; the policies on socioeconomic development and the mechanism of economic management; the right to own, use, inherit, and transfer land or ricefields; the two strategic tasks of the Vietnamese revolution; the political system; the organizational structure and mechanism of state management; the party's leadership over the administration; the party's role in the political system; the nature of party members; the participation of party members in private economic activities; the renovation and reorganization of the party; and the need to ensure that the party is pure and strong.

Based on the views expressed and discussed by delegates, the congress reached a high identity of views on various key issues, as well as on the need to persist in the socialist path chosen by Uncle Ho and the party, to use Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's concepts as its foundation, to presistently adopt the policies of economic renovation, and to modify the political system in a way that meets the needs and tasks of the revolution in the new stage. Various delegates profoundly touched on matters relating to policies on nationalities and mountainous regions, education and training, activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front and other mass organizations, and the problems of culture and art at present.

The congress decided on a number of issues that had been debated most extensively by delegates.

The delegates suggested that policies should be formulated by the party and state to give priority to areas heavily devastated by war, as well as to mountainous and coastal regions with a low standard of living. Many views suggested that importance be attached to educational work to develop the people's intellect, manpower, and talent in order to make it possible for our country to quickly catch up with mankind's common civilization. Apart from this, it was suggested that policies on population planning be applied in a more comprehensive manner to ensure that all socioeconomic targets are achieved.

Regarding the political system, some delegates suggested that the position of districts should be clearly defined, that the district level should be regarded merely as an administrative level and not as a comprehensive planning level, and that district and village people's councils be abolished. They also suggested that party organs should be neatly arranged, and that only party-building and mass mobilization sections and party committee offices should be established.

The Quang Tri provincial party organization congress elected 15 delegates to the seventh national party congress.

Vinh Phu Province Congress

BK1505041591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 May 91

[Report by station correspondent Dao Nguyen]

[Text] From among the contributions from cities and districts, the first round seventh congress of the Vinh Phu provincial party organization delegates selected 13 typical issues for debate. As one of the provinces that has applied the new management mechanism to agriculture in the past few years as well as central government contract No. 10, agriculture in Vinh Phu Province has progressed considerably in terms of grain production. However, just like other localities countrywide, in the course of implementing Contract No. 10, apart from achievements, Vinh Phu also encountered some difficulties with its agricultural cooperatives and these should be removed. About 30 percent of its cooperatives are performing well and applying the contract effectively. The remaining cooperatives are rated average while there are quite a number of weak and poor cooperatives.

Although different views were presented at the congresses of party bases, in general they can be summarized into three types: The first one concurs with the maintenance of cooperatives as specified in the draft documents. The second one recommends that only good cooperatives will be maintained and that other weak and poor ones should be disbanded and the rights to operationally control land and ricefields and to collect agricultural taxes be transferred to the village administration. A series of other views suggested that cooperatives be disbanded and agricultural production be shifted to the procedures of individual work.

At the provincial party congress, the delegates agreed with the draft documents of the party Central Committee which say: to continually consolidate and maintain production in agricultural cooperatives. Yet, based on the present conditions and developmental trends of agriculture in the multisectorial economy, the delegates suggested that the contents and procedures of managerial control over cooperatives should be renovated to suit the conditions of peasants' households as independent economic units.

Realities in Vinh Phu showed that wherever the party committees and the village administration are firm and strong, cooperatives there can do good business. Nevertheless, the reconsideration of cooperatives' scales to suit the level of managerial and operational control of the management board is not the sole condition for helping weak and poor cooperatives operate better. After splitting into smaller ones, many cooperatives still have not performed better but have lost nearly all of the material bases they received upon their establishment.

From these facts, the delegates suggested that the consolidation, maintenance, and gradual upgrading of cooperatives in the mechanism of contract No. 10, and the use of households as independent economic units first of all cannot be separated from the consolidation and enhancement of the leading effectiveness of all party committee echelons and administrations at grass-roots levels.

With respect to the problems of rights to ownership and use of land and ricefields, the district and city party congresses presented two types of suggesstions to the Vinh Phu provincial party organization congress. At the congress, some delegates suggested that the central government should grant the right to ownership of some types of land such as residential or hilly land. Hilly land will include fallow and bare hill land in Vinh Phu which hovers at around 8,000 hectares. Just like many other localities countrywide, the land problem has been and remains a current issue in the rural areas of Vinh Phu province.

Differing from the views just mentioned, the congress delegates concurred with the draft documents of the national party congress for giving people not the right to ownership but only the right to use land for a long time. However, how long will there be the right to use land? The delegates suggested that the central government should continue to consider the issue specifically on the basis of each area, each type of land, and the capability for, as well as the people's objectives of cultivation. Considering this from the national standpoint, we have, more or less, 10 million hectares of fallow land and bare hills. Apart from the area of grain crops and secondary food crops, should localities at the same time necessarily be given the area earmarked to be covered with greenery for forests to create an ecologically-sound environment?

We cannot help but worry when forested area is shrinking and the area of fallow land and bare hills is expanding due to various causes, forest destruction being among the main ones. For many years now, measures have been taken by Vinh Phu to cover this type of land with greenery but the rate of work is still slow. Those who accept fallow land and bare hills want to do hilly and forest gardening. As a result, they want to have enough time for exploiting their allocated land area with the highest economic results. If the right to use land, including hilly land, is not sufficiently long, the people will encounter difficulties and it will be hard for our state policy of allocating land to develop the family-based economy to accomplish good results.

The vicious circle of problems concerning fallow land and bare hills will not end, and the problem of fallow land and bare hills countrywide in general, and in Vinh Phu in particular, is one that must be resolved effectively.

In the course of discussing the draft documents on renovating the task of party building, the congress focused on four issues, including the issue of nonexploitative conditions when recruiting party members. In general, the congress unanimously agreed with the spirit of the draft documents requiring that party members not be authorized to exploit in recruiting.

However, when having specific debates on various views, different suggestions were made. The first suggestion asked the party Central Committee to clearly explain what exploitation is in order to avoid casual action in dealing with it. The second view proposed that this issue be cancelled in the draft documents because in the period of transition to socialism, party members should be allowed to do economic work since party members are entitled to the same rights as other citizens. As a result, party members must be authorized to hire workers within the limits of the law. It was therefore recommended that the party

Central Committee should add a condition requiring party members to live on their legitimately earned income and to be exemplary in labor. The third view recommended that the issue of exploitation be cancelled but it should be clearly stipulated that party members be authorized to do economic work to the extent of being small owners but not bourgeoisie and this was a view agreed upon by the congress through a vote.

Focussing on 13 issues including the above-mentioned ones, nearly 350 delegates representing more than 88,000 party members of more than 1,400 party chapters and organizations in the province, manifested a high sense of responsibility to the people in contributing their intelligence to the issues presented in the draft documents of the upcoming seventh national party congress.

Politburo Member on Party Renovation

BK1605115991 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Feb 91 pp 3-7

[Article by Nguyen Duc Tam, Member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau: "Our Party Must Renovate and Revamp Itself"]

[Text] Vietnam's historic facts during the decades before the 1945 August Revolution obviously indicated that no classes other than the working class could assume the mission of leading the revolution; that, besides the Communist Party of Vietnam, [CPV] no other political party or organization could have a correct political line and adequate ability to lead the revolution; and that besides President Ho Chi Minh, no one could find a correct line to liberate the nation.

The CPV's birth was therefore an historical necessity. Under the party's leadership, our people successfully staged the August Revolution, overthrew the yoke of imperialist and feudal domination, victoriously defeated the wars of aggression by two major imperialists—France and the United States—fulfilled the national liberation task, unified the country, and brought the entire country onto the path of socialist revolution. We have carried out the renovation process full of difficulties and complexities, and we have initially scored very important achievements.

These sagas and armed exploits of epochal significance, as well as achievements in party building, have become precious traditions and experiences, namely in terms of:

—Revolutionary persistence and firm political ability; sense of independence and sovereignty, upholding the banners of national independence and socialism, setting forth correct and creative lines, overcoming all difficulties and ordeals, and persistently struggling for the goal of building a socialist society in Vietnam.

—Close attachment to the people, ability to rely on the people to build the party, and constant consideration of the revolution as of the people, for the people, and by the people.

In the course of leading the revolution, the party has constantly struggled to strengthen solidarity and unity, especially the singlemindedness of viewpoints and lines, and has resolutely opposed individualism, opportunism, and all divisive and factional actions.

The party has always been concerned with purifying the contingent of cadres and party members whose core are key leading cadres of all sectors and at all echelons, and with increasing the militant strength of this contingent.

The bright and loyal international solidarity has profoundly imbued the entire party and people. The party has combined patriotism closely with socialist internationalism and the national strength with the strength of the era to persistently struggle for the victory of the Vietnamese revolution and contribute to the revolution of the world people.

Since the great 1975 Spring victory, the revolution in our country has shifted to a new stage. The party has led the people to establish and consolidate the people's administration throughout the country, restored the economy, overcome the heavy consequences of the war, built the initial material and technical bases of socialism, defined the new production relations step by step, defended the homeland, and fulfilled international obligations. However, the party has also committed mistakes in strategic leadership and in defining the specific lines for some important domains, causing serious consequences.

The party's sixth congress marked an important turning point in the revolution in our country. The congress asserted the country's great achievements. At the same time, it also strongly criticized shortcomings and mistakes and set forth the lines to renovate the country and to build the party politically, ideologically, and organizationally.

Our people's revolution is now facing both favorable conditions and new difficulties and challenges. This situation has raised important and pressing requirements of party building to our party: We must build the party firmly and strongly from the political, ideological, and organizational standpoints so that it can lead all the people through all difficulties and ordeals, surge forward to keep abreast of the very high demands of the renovation process, satisfactorily build the contingent of revolutionary cadres, firmly maintain its revolutionary and scientific nature, and respond to the people's aspirations and trust.

The party must therefore renovate and revamp itself comprehensively. The party must firmly grasp the following principled issues in order to renovate and revamp itself and to strengthen its working class nature and vanguardism:

First, the party must use Marxism-Leninism as its ideological foundation, carry on and develop the ideal, ethical, and behavioral values of Ho Chi Minh, and receive and promote the fine traditions of the nation and the intellecutal quintessence of mankind in order to formulate correct platforms and lines to lead the revolution.

Second, the party must assert definitively its unique leading role in the revolution in our country, and affirm, carry on, and develop the fine traditions of our nation and its own. This is not a subjective desire but a historical

necessity. The party is a leading organization of the political system and part and parcel of that system. The party faithfully represents the interests of the working class, the laboring people, and the entire nation, and considers serving the country and the people its highest goal.

Third, the party remains loyal to the communist ideal, continually upholds the banners of national independence and socialism, and persistently struggles for the goal of building a socialist society suitable to the characteristics of our country and the era. It is a society in which man is liberated, the laboring people master their own country, the economy is developed, culture is advanced and imbued with national hues; all the people enjoy a life of plenty, happiness, and conditions for developing themselves comprehensively as individuals; and people of all nationalities in the country are united and equal, help one another, and maintain friendly relations with other nations in the world.

Fourth, regarding the principle of organizing life activities, the party uses democratic centralism as a fundamental one and scrupulously implements the system of collective leadership, individual responsibility, and self-criticism, and criticism which aims to promote democracy, strengthen discipline, maintain unity and solidarity within the party, and oppose bureaucratism, despotism, and factionalism.

Fifth, the party combines genuine patriotism closely with the internationalism of the working class and actively supports the struggle for peace, independence, freedom, and progress of the peoples of all countries.

The contents of the party's self-renovation and self-revamping are plentiful and multifarious. The following are some of the main contents, policies, and measures:

1. Renovate theoretical thinking, enhance intellectual capability, and set forth correct strategic platforms, lines, and policies which are scientifically based and relevant to realities in our country.

This is the most fundamental and core issue and also the reason for our party's existence.

The party lines can be considered correct and scientific when they are relevant to objective reality, reach down into life, can exert their effect on life, and are accepted and willingly implemented by the people.

To formulate correct lines, the party is primarily required to be farsighted and broad-minded, and able to correctly and alertly grasp the objective laws that are operating at present, and accurately foresee their evolution in the future.

To have correct lines, the party must renovate and qualitatively enhance its theoretical research, generally review realities, reorganize its information network and ensure that all party committees and state agencies have sufficient bases and conditions to analyze the situation and define policy-making positions that are adequately and firmly based on scientific and practical standpoints.

To have correct lines, the party should give incentives to and create conditions for cadres, party members, experts, and scientists to develop their initiative, think independently, and actively participate in the process of formulating lines and organizing their implementation, making lines truly reflect the intelligence of the entire party and people.

To have correct lines, the staff agencies that directly help the party formulate lines must be composed of cadres and experts who have political and scientific knowledge, thoroughly know the real situation, have the ability to think independently and conduct analyses and syntheses, possess careful and scrupulous work behavior, and know how to listen to differing views in order to screen and accept correct ones.

2. Promote democracy within the party; correctly implement the principles of organizing and conducting party life activities; strengthen solidarity and unity in the party.

Implementing democracy within the party is the decisive condition to strengthen the militancy, solidarity, and unity in the party. As a result, it is primarily imperative to respect and adequately implement all rights of party members such as: the right to discuss democratically and frankly all issues concerning lines, policies, theories, and work; the right to be informed of necessary situations; the right to criticize, inquire about, and vote in party work; the right to elect, recommend candidates, and stand for elections to leading organs at all levels of the party; the right to express opinions when the party organizations make disciplinary decisions or comment on party members' activities; the right to expound personal viewpoints and ideas on all issues; and the right to defend their opinion... [as published] Party committee echelons should listen to party members' personal views without any prejudice, reprisals, or discrimination against them, and should frequently control, examine, and accept them if they are correct. They should promote vigorously the positivity, activity, and creativity of party members in the deliberation, researching, and contribution of their views to the party work, and should overcome the situation in which party committee echelons are arbitrary and encroach on democracy in the party whereas party members remain passive and dependent.

All forms of organization and party life activities from the center down to grassroots levels should be revamped to promote democracy, qualitatively enhance collective leadership, strengthen unity in the party, and first of all improve the preparations for and organization of the national congress of party delegates and congresses of party delegates at all levels along the line of true democracy, which allows gathering the intelligence of all party members to discuss and decide the operational lines and policies and to elect competent and trustworthy party committees.

We should continue to supplement and perfect the working regulations of the party central committee and party committees at all levels as required by the process of renovating leadership procedures, establishing the regulations for preparing and issuing resolutions, for organizing and controlling their implementation, and ensuring that

the principles of collective leadership and of upholding the individual responsibility of all party committee echelons be firmly maintained.

We should implement well the system for the party central committee to supervise and control the operations of the political bureau and secretariat, and for the party committees at all levels to supervise and control the operations of their standing committees.

The role and authority of control committees at all levels must be enhanced. The function of party control committees is to control the implementation of the principles for organizing and conducting party life activities; the working regulations of party committees at all levels; the quality, ethics, and behavior of party members; and to examine and take disciplinary action against party members and organizations as stipulated in the party statutes.

The system of self-criticism and criticism should be scrupulously implemented in the party from the highest leading organs to the lowest chapters, paying attention to criticism starting from the lowest level. Party members must faithfully and scrupulously conduct self-criticism and criticism. Leading cadres must conduct exemplarily self-criticism and accept criticism. It is sternly forbidden to hold prejudices and take reprisals against those who have frankly and truthfully criticized. At the same time, it is also severely forbidden to take advantage of criticism to personally attack and accuse individuals and to cause division and factionalism.

The bloc of solidarity and unity must be built on the basis of the party lines and policies, the principles of party life activities, and profound love for comrades. Implementing scrupulously President Ho Chi Minh's testament: "Solidarity is an extremely precious tradition of our party and people. Comrades from the party central committee to all chapters should preserve solidarity and unity of the party as the apple of their eyes."

3. Renovate the scope and procedures of party leadership; strengthen the party-people relationship.

Firmly maintaining and strengthening the blood-flesh relationship between the party and the people is an indispensable standard of a genuinely revolutionary party. Although the party is a leader, it is also a component of the people and it stands among the people. It is not a superpower organization standing neither above nor outside the people. Although the party leads, the revolution is of the people, by the people, and for the people. The more attached the relationship between the party and the people is, the higher the prestige and role of party leadership will be.

In the present conditions, to satisfactorily settle the party-people relationship, the party should renovate its scope and procedures of leadership, and primarily and mainly its scope and procedures of leadership over the state. It should distinguish leadership from management and the socioeconomic management function of the state. The party exercises its leadership over the state by setting forth strategic platforms, lines, major positions, and policies (localities and primary installations are important operational guidelines and policies); by supervising and controlling the implementation of party lines and policies; by formulating lines and policies to build and administer the contingent of cadres; and by leading the building of state machinery. Although leading the state, the party must operate within the framework of the constitution and state law. The party will not undertake the work of the state. Party leadership over the state is exercised through the democratic mechanism prescribed by law and through the influence of party members working in the state machinery.

The party should also renovate its mass motivation task and oppose bureaucratism by mainly accomplishing well democracy in all domains of social life and overcoming the situation of undemocratic practices, formalistic democracy, extremist democracy, and abuse of democracy to stir up troubles. The lines and policies of the party and state must guarantee the people's practical interests, harmoniously combine all interests and unify citizens' benefits and duties. We must continue to build and perfect lines and policies toward the people of all classes, strata, nationalities, and religions, and uphold the responsibility of party committees, state agencies, and mass organizations in the mass motivation task. Party organizations from the central down to grassroots levels should consider the mass motivation task the main scope of their activities. All cadres and party members should perform the mass motivation task, uphold their sense of serving the people, and actively operate in the mass organizations that they have joined. We must overcome bureaucratism in the operational mechanism of the party, the state, and mass organizations; encourage the people to actively and positively participate in party building, state administration, and social management, and implement well the system of soliciting the people's contributions to formulating the party lines and policies and the state law. Party chapters will hold periodic meetings for the masses to commend and criticize cadres, party members, and organizations, and to contribute their views on recruiting party members, purifying the party, and electing party committee echelons. We must bring into play the role of the people's inspection and mass information systems in supervising and controlling the implementation of party lines and policies and state law. We must detect and struggle against corruption, negative phenomena, and all manifestations of bureaucratism, arrogance, greed, bribery, arbitrariness, and contempt for the people.

4. Purify the contingent of party members; consolidate and enhance the militancy of party organizations.

To purify the contingent of party members, it is of prime importance to clearly define the specific qualifications of party members in the present revolutionary stage.

Party members must first of all be those who are politically firm and strong, have a correct and positive attitude toward the renovation process, and are able to carry out this process.

Party members must be exemplary citizens and good, loyal, and devoted workers.

Party members must be vanguard combatants in mass movements, have the ability to lead, educate, and persuade the masses, and maintain close relations with the masses without being demagogic or tailing after the masses.

Party members must learn and make themselves hard in order to constantly raise their intellectual capability and their practical organizational ability to effectively meet the requirements of the renovation process.

No matter in what position, party members must always observe and comply with the principle of democratic centralism in all party life activities and operations, uphold the sense of organization and discipline, and build and defend solidarity and unity in the party.

Along with clearly determining the qualifications of party members, we should regularly conduct advanced training to raise the quality and ability of party members depending on the new requirements, resolutely rid the party of unqualified members, and recruit members to meet the requirements of qualitatively enhancing and rejuvenating the contingent of party members.

All party members must operate in a definite party organization. The relationship between party members and their organizations is the cause-effect relationship. Good party members will make strong party organizations. Conversely, strong party organizations will optimally restrain negativism in each party member. As a result, purifying the contingent of party members and consolidating and raising the militancy of basic party organizations are the two inseparable issues.

We should firmly maintain and develop the leadership role of all types of basic party organizations. Along with determining the mission and function, we should renovate the organization, scope, and procedures of leadership of all basic party organizations to suit the requirements of new lines, policies, and management mechanisms. The scope and procedures of leadership must be relevant to the nature and characteristics of each party base to ensure that basic party organizations are truly the firm and strong foundation of the entire party.

We should improve the organization and quality of party life activities of all basic party organizations, especially those of party chapters, to ensure adequate leadership, militancy, and educational property. Party chapters must carry out work assignments and periodically control the work of each party member and his compliance with the party statutes. All party members including high-ranking ones must participate regularly in party chapters' life activities and scrupulously and effectively perform the tasks assigned by the party chapters. We must increase the number of party base members' plenary meetings to promote democracy, focus the intelligence of large numbers of party members on the party work, and control the activities of party base echelons.

Attention must be paid to the placement and advanced training of key cadres in party bases, especially secretaries of party chapters and committees. We must intensify the leadership of higher party committees over party bases, especially targeted units and poorly performing localities. Weak and poor party bases must be reduced to the minimum while advanced models must be nurtured and multiplied. Rotten party bases may be disbanded if deemed necessary, and be reorganized in accordance with the party statutes.

5. Renovate the cadre task.

In any period and stage of the revolution, cadres remain the prominent issue and play an extremely vital role. This issue holds a decisive meaning not only to the party building task and the strengthening of party leadership, but also to the success of the revolutionary struggle. "Cadres are the base of all works. The success or failure of the works depends on whether cadres are good or bad." (Footnote 1: Ho Chi Minh—On Party Building, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1980, page 40). As a result, it is extremely essential to renovate the cadre task and qualitatively enhance the contingent of cadres in order to satisfactorily meet the very high demands of the renovation process.

In the years to come, the cadre task must basically change for the better in the following respects:

—To ensure the steady continuity and shift of various generations of cadres and the development of the contingent of cadres, especially the key leading cadres in central agencies and all sectors and at all levels in order to promptly meet the requirements of the new revolutionary stage and to firmly maintain political stability and firmness of the party lines and viewpoints.

—To comprehensively renovate the system of basic and advanced training of cadres. The contingent of cadres must be attentively retrained, especially party leading cadres, state operational cadres, production and business management cadres, and experts in all fields depending on the new requirements. We should enhance the quality of basic and advanced cadre training in schools and, at the same time, pay attention to accelerating step by step the organization, selection, and sending of cadres to schools abroad in order to quickly overcome the current state of backwardness, theoretical sluggishness, and poverty of management experiences among cadres of all ranks and in all sectors.

—To expand democracy in performing cadre task, correctly implement the principle of collectively considering cadre problems by party committees and the leadership, improve the management task, divide labor and decentralize cadre management, and correctly establish and implement the regulations on introducing, recommending, and placing cadres, thus avoiding acting casually from personal views.

—To basically renovate the system of remunerating cadres, ensure the principle of distribution according to labor and encourage talented people to make outstanding contributions. We must ensure a stable livelihood for cadres, workers, and civil servants, paying attention to meritorious and retired cadres. We must improve systems and policies toward party base cadres,

rescind irrational and unjust systems and policies, and publicize all policies and systems of remunerating cadres.

Over the past four years or more, in compliance with the sixth party congress resolution, we have comprehensively renovated all domains of social life. Even the party has renovated and revamped itself a step further. In the future, new and more difficult and complex problems will continue to arise from the renovation process. As a result, it is always an urgent demand that the party renovate and revamp itself in order to intensify its leadership role.

War Veterans Associations Prepare for Congresses

BK1705072491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] From 10 to 14 May in Da Nang City, the Provisional Central Executive Committee of the Vietnam War Veterans Association held its third conference to review past work, decide on its main tasks for the rest of 1991, and discuss some issues relating to the preparations for the congresses of war veterans associations in various provinces, cities, and special zones, and for the national congress.

After more than one year in operation, all provinces and cities throughout the country have founded provisional war veterans associations. Along with their efforts to expand and consolidate their organizations and broaden information and propaganda work at home and abroad, the associations have also undertaken economic activities to obtain additional funds for their operations. From now until the end of the year, the war veterans associations will continue to expand and consolidate their organizations, considering this their regular task. They will also contribute to maintaining public order and security in their localities and prepare for provincial, city, and national congresses.

Hailstorm Losses Exceed 400 Million Dong

BK1705103991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 May, a hailstorm travelling at a speed of more than 90 km per hour unexpectedly struck the central area of the mountain District of Phuoc Son, Quang Nam-Danang Province for nearly 15 minutes, causing considerable losses of lives and production. All installations of the local public health service medical center located on an area approximately 540 square meters were completely destroyed. The medicine storehouse containing about 10-million dong worth of drugs was flooded. Large amounts of medical equipment were ruined, with an anesthetic machine seriously damaged. At the Ethnic Minority Youth School, three rows of houses comprising 16 rooms collapsed, immersing textbooks, teaching equipment, and rice under water, and rendering more than 400 students homeless. According to initial estimates, the total losses exceeded 400 million dong.

As soon as they learned of the hailstorm, the People's Committee of Quang Nam-Danang and the water conservancy, labor, war invalids, and social welfare services, and the provincial committee for mountain regions and ethnic affairs arrived on the spot to visit the victims and worked with the People's Committee of Phuoc Son District to find ways to overcome the aftermath of the calamity and stabilize production and the people's living conditions. The province immediately set aside a portion of its budget to aid the district and instructed the public health and educational services to send in cadres, along with a medical team and textbooks, to study the situation in the affected area.

Country Neither Accepts Nor Rejects U.S. Plan

BK1605142691 Hanoi VNA in English 1357 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 16—An official of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry today said that Vietnam has neither accepted nor rejected the four-step US plan for normalisation of relations between the two countries.

Asked by an AFP correspondent at the regular press conference of the Foreign Ministry this afternoon, the spokeswoman, Mrs Ho The Lan, said : "At the April 20, 1991 press conference held in Hanoi before General John Vessey, special envoy of the US president on the MIA issue left Vietnam, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said, "Vietnam has neither accepted nor rejected such a plan."

In reply to a question also from AFP concerning the arrest of a French national and a Vietnamese American in recent days, she said : "Mr Gesbert Bernard Rmain, a French national, who entered Vietnam as a tourist, was arrested on May 3,1991 in Hanoi, as already reported in the Vietnamese mass media, he was expelled from Vietnam on May 15, 1991."

"The other man is Bui Duy Tam. A Vietnamese American, he was arrested on charges of passing documents hostile to the Vietnamese state and collecting information about Vietnam's security problems. His actions violated Vietnam's law".

Radio on Results of Leaders' Visit to USSR

BK1605141791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 14 May 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] In the first two weeks of May, two top leaders of Vietnam, Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi, paid working visits to the Soviet Union. The following is our radio's opinion on these events:

Presently preparations are under way throughout Vietnam for the Seventh National Party Congress, an event of high significance in the political life of the Vietnamese people. Meanwhile, the situation in the Soviet Union continues to be tense and complicated. Vietnam and the Soviet Union currently pay much attention to strengthening the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The

[words indistinct] were shown in the two recent working visits to the Soviet Union by Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi.

During their stay in the Soviet Union, the two top leaders of Vietnam were received by and had talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. In the political field, President Gorbachev and the Vietnamese leaders shared the view on strengthening the comprehensive cooperation between the two parties and states. And in the international field, the two sides reached unanimity of views on many issues, such as the easing of world tension, the settlement of conflicts by peaceful means, the strengthening of cooperation for peace, stability, and development, and the acceleration of action aimed at turning Asia and the Pacific into a zone of peace, stability, and development.

Particularly in the economic field, although no further agreements have been signed, commitments reached during the visit were of great significance. Vietnam and the Soviet Union laid stress on the renovation of the economic and commercial relations between the two countries, which are based on equality and mutual benefit. The two countries will create favorable conditions for developing economic ties between Vietnam and the Soviet republics and expanding direct economic and commercial relations between Soviet and Vietnamese economic units. The two sides also discussed the settlement of Vietnam's debts to the Soviet Union. Worthy of note is that in the coming period Vietnam and the Soviet Union will readjust conditions for cooperation on oil and gas exploitation in the Southern Vietnamese continental shelf.

The commitments reached in political and economic fields between the two countries and their unanimity of views on international issues are signficant results of the recent visit to the Soviet Union by Vietnamese Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi. These results open up great prospects for the friendship and comprehensive cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. They also show that after many years of seething developments, Vietnam-Soviet relations remain unchanged. On the contrary, they only make the Vietnam-Soviet relationship firmer and more lasting. Vietnam attaches importance to and is resolved to and strengthen friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. It resolves to determinedly fulfill its commitments toward the Soviet Union and unswervingly raise the efficiency of Vietnam-Soviet cooperation.

Cease-Fire Situation in Cambodia Reported

BK1705052791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 15 May 91

[Article by Duong Tung on "The Situation and General Tendencies Regarding the Cease-Fire in Cambodia"]

[Text] For half a month now, the Democratic Kampuchea side, mainly the Khmer Rouge, has continuously violated the cease-fire policy that it promised to implement. A series of its attacks have been aimed at the positions of the State of Cambodia's armed forces in Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu, and Siem Reap Provinces and Kompong Som city.

It has used heavy weapons such as mortars, rockets, and artillery guns, resulting in great human and material losses on the local people. During his visit to Kompong Thom, Chairman Hun Sen of the Council of Ministers condemned the Pol Pot clique for not renouncing its plot to use force to usurp power in Cambodia and for continuously violating the cease-fire order, killing and wounding many Cambodian civilians.

Chairman Hun Sen stressed: Since 1987, the State of Cambodia has advocated that the immediate termination of all military aid from outside is an essential condition for restoring peace, ending the sufferings of the Cambodian people, and creating an atmosphere of mutual trust in negotiations. He also pointed out: The Phnom Penh government cannot accept any peace plan without an international guarantee for preventing the genocidal clique's return to power in Cambodia.

These fair and reasonable proposals of the State of Cambodia have received public sympathy every day. At many international conferences on Cambodia, three prominent issues concerning a political solution to the Cambodian problem can be noted:

1. To implement the Cambodian people's right to self-determination through free elections and to build an independent, sovereign, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia.

2. To withdraw all foreign troops from and not to bring foreign troops and arms into Cambodia.

3. To prevent the return of the genocidal regime in any form.

The international community has realized that it is time to immediately take the necessary steps for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem which has been raised.

The UN general secretary and the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia released a joint communique suggesting that the Cambodian sides call a voluntarily cease-fire effective 1 May. Then, the military adviser to the UN general secretary was dispatched to Cambodia on a fact-finding mission about the cease-fire.

The governments and statesmen of many countries have also initiated positive actions. During his talks with our party general secretary, Nguyen Van Linh, CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev asserted that the Soviet Union would relentlessly struggle for a political solution on the basis of respect for the independence and sovereignty of the Cambodian people. U.S. senators have successively come to Cambodia to learn about the situation. Senator Edward Kennedy proposed a bill against the Khmer Rouge in 1991. U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Solomon confirmed the genocidal disaster in Cambodia during Pol Pot's regime. The U.S. Government has also suspended its $20 million aid package to the Sihanouk and Son Sann factions because they have cooperated militarily with the Khmer

Rouge. The Japanese Government has suggested many measures to bring about peace in Cambodia, including the prevention of the Khmer Rouge's return to power. Japan has also given $1 million in humanitarian aid to Cambodia. Chairman Hun Sen considered these actions correct steps that contribute to satisfactorily settling the Cambodian issue.

The planned conference on Cambodia will be reconvened in Jakarta in early June. The main issues to be discussed are: The cease-fire must be included in an agreement; the United Nations must supervise the situation in Cambodia; the regulations on the organization of free general elections and the practical role of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia must be concretely specified; the prevention of a reoccurence of genocide must be asserted; and the foreign military aid to various Cambodian sides must end.

The Cambodian people and progressive people in the world who are looking forward to the positive results of this conference, have therefore condemned any violations by the genocidal clique.

International Pressure Urged

BK1705090891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Hanoi, May 17 (AFP)—Hanoi has called on the international community to place pressure on Cambodia's resistance coalition to respect the cease-fire implemented may 1, the army daily QUAN DOI NAHN DAN said Friday.

The pro-Vietnamese regime in Phnom Penh and the tripartite coalition accepted the temporary cease-fire proposed last month by France and Indonesia—co-presidents of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia—and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Since then, however, both sides in the 12-year-old civil war have traded accusations of cease-fire violations.

"The military situation in Cambodia in recent days has shown that the oppostion Khmer factions, despite agreeing to the cease-fire, have doggedly pursued the path of violence and war," the army daily said.

"International opinion must exert more pressure to force the Khmer opposition to genuinely respect the cease-fire," it said, adding that the cease-fire was "of primary importance in promoting dialogue on Cambodia."

According to the QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, the cease-fire should coincide with the cessation of all foreign arms supplies to Cambodia's warring factions.

The daily said the three resistance factions—including the militarily powerful Khmer Rouge—had been forced to agree to the cease-fire for fear of being left out of any political solution to the Cambodian problem and any subsequent power-sharing role.

"In violating the cease-fire, the opposition Khmer factions have shown they are not yet ready to bring a constructive or cooperative attitude to the next SNC (Supreme National Council) meeting in Jakarta," the daily said.

The SNC was formed in September last year to represent Cambodia's sovereignty ahead of free elections. The Jakarta meeting of the SNC, which comprises six representatives from the Phnom Penh regime and six from the resistance coalition, is scheduled for early June.

Hanoi's call comes at the end of a U.N. mission to Cambodia to monitor the application of the cease-fire, which is intended to remain in place at least until the Jakarta meeting.

The four-member mission, led by General Timothy Dibuama of Ghana, left Phnom Penh on Friday for Bangkok.

VNA Carries 17 May Press Review

BK1705085291 Hanoi VNA in English 0619 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 17—Newspapers here today frontpage an illustrated report on Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi's reception here Wednesday of Kim Woo Choong, president of the South Korean Dae Woo Corporation, and his party, during which he welcomed his guests' initial steps in developing economic cooperation with Vietnamese companies. The South Korean businessmen, during their working tour of Vietnam from May 14-16, met with various Vietnamese senior officials.

They also frontpage Chairman Do Muoi's congratulations to Fatos Nano on his appointment as chairman of the Albanian Council of Ministers, and carry in full text the ordinance on the citizens' petition and accusation issued on May 2 by the Council of Ministers.

The papers report that the supreme people's organ of control organized a meeting here on May 15 and 16 to review its work in service of the campaign against corruption and smuggling. It was reported that nearly 600 cases have been tried and nearly 2,000 prosecuted among 3,134 cases of corruption discovered so far.

They report on the conferment of the military exploit order on the Vietnam Military History Institute on its 10th anniversary, on the circulation of new stamps on the party and Uncle Ho to welcome to coming seventh congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Vietnamese economic reports are about the planned export of 1.2 million knitting items to Japan this year, an eight-fold increase over 1989 by the Dong Xuan Knitting Factory under the Ministry of Light Industry, the export of nearly 1,000 tons of aquatic products by the state-run fish company of the southernmost province of Kieng Giang.

The national daily NHAN DAN runs a commentary, exposing the Pretoria administration's dark scheme to break up the national unity of the South African people and discredit the prestige of the African National Congress (ANC) by inventing the so-called Winnie Mandela case.

Sport news reports are about the current 1991 division a national soccer tournament and the 1991 national tennis tournament freshly concluded in the Mekong River delta province of Hau Giang.

The papers reproduce foreign reports concerning the Thai government's approval on May 15 of a proposal on the establishment of a joint committee for economic cooperation with Vietnam, the activities of the Chinese Communist Party general secretary in the Soviet Union, and the appointment of the first woman prime minister of france. They carry excerpts of an article published recently by the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR to call for normalization of the US relations with Vietnam.

Nguyen Co Thach Receives Lao Party Delegation

BK1705083691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 16 May 91

[Text] A delegation of the Commission of Foreign Relations of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] led by Thongloun Sipasoulit, member of the LPRP Cenral Committee and deputy head of the commission, paid a working visit to Vietnam 9 to 14 May.

While here, the delegation exchanged views with the External Relations Commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam on the international and regional situation and the cooperation between the two commissions. On 13 May, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach received the Lao guests. Also present at the reception was the Lao ambassador to Vietnam.

Australia

Hong Kong Governor Meets Cabinet Ministers

BK1305122491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0933 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Canberra, May 13 (AFP)—The governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson, discussed the British colony's drive to join the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and airline agreements with senior Australian ministers here Monday.

"This is the guts of the visit," an official said as Sir David held separate talks with Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and three other cabinet ministers.

A spokesman for Mr. Evans said the two discussed Indo-Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, the Cambodian situation and Hong Kong's desire to join APEC.

Canberra supports Hong Kong's drive for APEC as part of its three China policy and expects the issue to be resolved at this year's APEC meeting, he said.

Sir David visited Transport and Communications Minister Kim Beazley where the two discussed bilateral airline arrangements and investment opportunities for Hong Kong based communication companies.

"There wasn't much new business done," a spokesman for Mr. Beazley said. "There wasn't much detail at all."

Australian aviation officials were hoping the governor would help Canberra's airline Qantas gain permission to fly the lucrative route between Hong Kong and Europe.

Qantas and Hong Kong's airline Cathay Pacific have been talking for several months about a new agreement to take effect after 1997, when the colony reverts to China.

Sir David has been here since Thursday on a week-long visit meeting officials and business leaders to discuss a wide range of political and economic issues.

He spent the first few days explaining to businessmen that Hong Kong would remain a valuable economic partner after 1997.

Australia enjoyed a trade surplus of 477 million Australian dollars (372.46 million U.S.) with Hong Kong last financial year, due largely to exports of gold, coal, and aluminium.

Meets With Prime Minister; Leaves

BK1405041491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0346 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Canberra, May 14 (AFP)—The governor of Hong Kong, Sir David Wilson, briefly met Prime Minister Bob Hawke here Tuesday before flying to Sydney on the third and final leg of a week-long visit to Australia. Officials described the 30-minute visit to Mr. Hawke's office in Parliament House as "a courtesy call."

On Monday, Sir David met four Australian government ministers to discuss Hong Kong's drive to join the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and its airline agreements.

A spokesman for Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said that he and Sir David discussed Indo-Chinese refugees in Hong Kong, the Cambodian situation and Hong Kong's desire to join APEC.

Sir David also conferred with Transport and Communications Minister Kim Beazley, but an Australian spokesman said there "wasn't much new business done. There wasn't much detail at all."

The governor also met Australia's ministers for trade and overseas development, Neal Blewett, and immigration and ethnic affairs, Gerry Hand.

On Tuesday, Sir David was due to address the Hong Kong Australia Business Association at lunch, to meet Hong Kong students at Sydney University, and to speak at the Sydney Institute, a private think tank. He was scheduled to return to Hong Kong early Wednesday.

Iran's Velayati Agrees on Trade Expansion Moves

BK1705103691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Sydney, May 17 (AFP)—The Australian Government agreed in talks with Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati on Friday to expand trade between the two countries.

Dr. Velayati has been meeting with Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans and other ministers during the first visit of an Iranian foreign minister to Australia since Iran's 1979 revolution.

Their talks ranged over issues such as opportunities for investment by Australian companies in joint ventures in Iran and the possibilities for Australia importing Iranian oil, Mr. Evans said in a statement later.

Issues of regional stability in the Gulf, refugees from the Gulf war, human rights and hostages in Lebanon were also discussed.

Australia had also agreed to send a delegation to Iran within a month to help iron out problems blocking the conclusion of an international convention comprehensively banning chemical weapons, Mr. Evans said.

Speaking to journalists at the end of his two-day visit, Dr. Velayati said Iran's view was that regional cooperation in the Gulf would be the basis for stability.

"After a long time of misunderstanding in... the countries around the Persian Gulf, now we think that the time is ripe for real regional cooperation," Dr. Velayati said, adding, "you cannot bring the security to the region from the outside."

He said Iran was not optimistic about the U.S. peace initiative because it did not address reality in the Middle East.

The main problem is about one million Palestinians under "strong suppression" by Israel and about three million Palestinians in refugee camps in neighbouring countries, he said.

Any initiative for peace should be raised by the countries of the region and be implemented by those countries, Dr. Velayati said.

"We are against the presence of any kind of foreign forces there," he said.

Vanuatu Prime Minister Leaves Sydney Hospital

BK1705071091 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Vanuatu's prime minister, Father Walter Lini, has been discharged from a hospital in the Australian city of Sydney where he has been undergoing treatment for a heart attack he suffered two weeks ago.

Doctors say he is in excellent health and his recovery is going well, but that he would continue his rehabilitation in Australia for some time before returning home. They say Father Lini is now visiting the hospital on a daily basis for rehabilitation, exercise, and educational program.

Fiji

Statistics Bureau Issues Population Figures

HK1005103391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0833 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Suva, May 10 (AFP)—The exodus of ethnic Indians since the 1987 coups in Fiji mean they no longer outnumbered indigenous Fijians, official figures out Friday showed.

The Bureau of Statistics said Fiji's overall population rose 1.3 per cent to 735,985 last year.

Native Fijians of Polynesian and Melanesian descent make up 48.9 per cent or about 360,000, while ethnic Indians, whose forefathers settled here under a British indenture system about 110 years ago, totalled 46.2 per cent or about 340,000.

Other races, including Chinese, Europeans, part-Europeans and other Pacific islanders totalled 4.9 per cent or 36,000.

At Fiji's census in 1986, Indians made up 48.7 per cent of the population and Fijians 46 per cent. In the following year an Indian-dominated government came to power for the first time, only to be deposed within a month by the overwhelmingly Melanesian army.

The coup, and another later designed to ensure Melanesian supremacy prompted a huge exodus of Indians to Australia, New Zealand, North America and Britain.

The interim government set up after the coups is using the declining numbers of Indians as a basis for giving them only 27 parliamentary seats under its new Constitution, against 37 for ethnic Fijians.

New Zealand

Hong Kong Governor Wilson Cancels Planned Trip

BK1205142291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Wellington, May 12 (AFP)—Hong Kong Governor Sir David Wilson has cancelled a planned two-day trip here to return home for continued talks with Chinese officials on a controversial plan to build a new airport in the colony, press reports said Sunday.

The NEW ZEALAND PRESS ASSOCIATION quoted the Hong Kong Trade Development Council as saying the visit was due to start May 17.

(Reports in Hong Kong said Sir David, currently in Australia on a trade promotion tour, would return to the British colony Wednesday.

(THE SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST said Beijing and London had announced that talks on the multi-billion dollar port and airport project would resume Saturday in Beijing and continue until May 22.)

Talks broke off April 13 over Beijing's demand that it be allowed to scrutinise all major projects in Hong Kong spanning 1997 when the colony reverts to Chinese rule.

EC Vice-President Views Agricultural Reform

BK1705072891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0533 GMT 17 May 91

[Text] Wellington, May 17 (AFP)—Fundamental reforms to Europe's farm protection scheme will be made, European Commission Vice-President Frans Andriessen said here Friday.

"Whatever the hostile reaction, there will be some reform and, I think, it will be fundamental," he told a seminar.

The EC was being forced to change its common agricultural policy because of the huge cost of subsidies and its failure to serve the interests of farmers and European consumers, he said.

"The beef and dairy stores are once again bulging and the costs are escalating," he added.

But Mr. Andriessen said the EC would reform the policy out of self-interest, not international pressure. The commission recognised it had no choice but to reduce the costs of protection.

"The main incentives have to come from inside the community ... But we can always get a bit of help from the outside," he said. "If it's done in a comprehensive, moderate and understanding way, we would like to have that."

The EC's refusal to reduce farm protection drastically was one of the stumbling blocks to reaching a conclusion last year in the Uruguay round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Mr. Andriessen, acknowledging agriculture was an "essential element" for New Zealand, said it would be "a great error" if the Uruguay round was not concluded this year.

But he said New Zealand and other members of the Cairns Group of agricultural exporting countries had to realise agriculture was not the most important area of the round for all GATT members.

New Zealand Trade Minister Philip Burdon has welcomed indications of radical reform in European farm protection policies but downplayed their significance for the stalled GATT talks.

"The atmospherics are good. It looks encouraging," Mr. Burdon said. But he added that until the details were made known the issue was "really no further advanced."

"What we are seeing now is a positioning from all quarters as people talk about compromise. They recognise we're now past the position of simply making statements," he said.